Migration Of Labor To North Worries South's Business Men

Birmingham News

This is the first in a series of articles on labor in the South, based on U. S. Department of Labor statistics.

BY C. W. GILMORE

ATLANTA, Nov. 25 — (AP) — During the last five years 1,300 Southerners quit their homes every day for other parts of the nation. While this mass migration was taking place, 500 men and women a day moved south from the Northern and Western states.

The two figures were higher than ever before but the odds remained the same. For, ever since the turn of the century, the South has supplied its own factories and farms and then contributed to the labor supply of other regions.

The U. S. Department of Labor attributes this to the South's high birth rate and the North's growing job opportunities. For example, 80 per cent of the nation's war contracts were granted outside the South but the new jobs largely were filled by Southern migrants.

This steady loss to migration perturbs Southern business men because 55 per cent of those who leave the region are in the productive 14-to-34-year-age group—they are men and women who have been educated in the South and then gone elsewhere to work.

In addition, a War Department survey showed that 15 of every 100 soldiers from the South intend to seek employment in the North or West.

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BECAUSE TRAINED and able-bodied labor is a productive asset like a mine, a stand of timber or 40 acres of fertile farm land, one of the South's major problems is how bent to utilize this immensely valuable human wealth.

In the years between 1940 and 1945, every Southern State except Florida and Virginia continued to lose population to other areas. Even the Northern states showed a slight loss to emigration while the West Coast gained considerably.

Emigration by Southern states during the war years was:

Oklahoma, 356,000; Kentucky, 308,000; North Carolina, 307,000; Arkansas, 265,000; Mississippi, 230,000 South Carolina, 162,000; Georgia 149,000; Alabama, 134,000; Tennessee, 79,000; Louisiana, 19,000; Texas, 17,000.

Florida gained 219,000 and Virginia 181,000 during the same period. *Bham Ala.*

* * *

OF THE 1,600,000 migrants who left the South between Pearl Harbor and last year, about 1,000,000 went North and the remainder to the Western States. In return, the South attracted 600,000 new citizens from Northern states and 100,000 from the West. *11-25-46*

In addition to this record exodus from the South, there was a tremendous internal movement reported by the Department of Labor.

Pay Envelopes In South Grow Fatter But Future Is Uncertain

The News Birmingham, Ala.

(Second in a series of articles on labor in the South based on U. S. Department of Labor statistics). *Tues. 11-26-46*

BY C. W. GILMORE

ATLANTA, Nov. 26 — (AP) — The Southern pay envelope has become fatter year by year, doubling since the prosperous 20s, but future income depends largely on the continuation of newly-developed wartime industry.

The 13 Southern states are still far below the national average—$797 a year in 1945 as compared to $1,290 a year for the other states—but the steady shift from farm to factory has lifted Southern wages to record levels.

The region's traditional emphasis on agriculture is usually blamed for its relatively low income, but the farming states of the Midwest consistently produce enough wealth to indicate that there are other reasons.

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THE U. S. DEPARTMENT of Labor contends that low income results "where resources are naturally meager or have been depleted, where capital equipment is relatively small and where the population is not generally skilled in industry."

This lower income means lower tax revenues so that education, health and general welfare suffer. As these public functions are curtailed, earning capacities are reduced even further. Poverty begets poverty in an endless circle, the department says.

The past two decades, however, have furnished an encouraging trend. In 1929 Southern income was slightly over half the national average of $680 a year. By 1945 Southern workers were receiving almost 70 per cent of the national average.

* * *

THIS TREND was based on two developments:

First, the South—with half the nation's farm population—received less than a third of the country's agricultural income. The result was a migration to the industrial centers of the North, leaving behind fewer farmers and larger, more economical farms.

So the net income per farm in he South increased from $582 in 1940 tot $1,708 a year in 1944. Farm income trebled and so did farm wages. But because there were fewer farms, the total farm income in the Southern states has only doubled since 1929.

Second, the South's large pool of manpower and convenient manufacturing locations attracted war industries. The average wage in Southern industry grew from $1,016 a year in 1939 to $1,798 in 1944—an increase of 77 per cent. At the same time, industrial wages for the nation rose from $1,360 to $2,302.

* * *

HOW PERMANENT these wartime gains will be in peacetime remains to be seen, the Department of Labor says.

Per capita income payments in Southern states in 1945:

Mississippi—$556.
Arkansas—$654.
South Carolina—$663.
Alabama—$700.
North Caolina—$732.
Kentucky—$735.
Georgia—$745.
Louisiana—$7.85.
Tennessee—$813.
Oklahoma—$889.
Virginia—$903.
Texas—$917.
Florida—$996.

The per capita income in other states of the nation that year was $1,290 — well above the highest Southern state.

* * *

BUT THE SOUTH'S march toward better pay is best evidenced by the growth of total wages and salary from $7,234,000,000 a year in 1929 to $17,732,000,000 in 1945 for an increase of 145 per cent.

During that same period the rest of the nation increased only 79 per cent.

The Department of Labor does not believe, however, that this rapid gain in the South will be maintained, because last year 14.7 per cent of the total income in the region came from military payments. Demobilization of Southern camps will remove this source of revenue.

Costs Less To Live In South, But Differences Is Negligible

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Wed. 11-27-46

BY C. W. GILMORE

ATLANTA, Nov. 27—(AP)—It still costs less to live in the South than anywhere else in the nation, but the rapid growth of cities in recent years has sent prices zooming to such a level that the difference is now negligible in many communities.

A survey by the Bureau of Labor

Third In A Series

Statistics reveals that consumer prices increased more than the national average in all except four of 23 Southern cities and towns. Two Southern cities, Savannah, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla., led the entire United States.

Living costs skyrocketed as war workers and the families of service men poured into Southern states. Areas with meager facilities to accommodate additional residents found their normal population increase of 10 years appearing overnight.

Between 1939 and this year the retail price of food, clothing and household furnishings increased 56 per cent in the larger cities of the nation and 41 per cent in smaller towns. Rent went up generally about 4 per cent and utilities advanced 12 per cent.

* * *

TWENTY-THREE CITIES and towns in the South compared this way with the national average: 19 communities surpassed the national average in food increases; 17 passed it in rentals; 10 in utilities; 10 in household furnishings; but none surpassed it in clothing increases.

Food prices, which the Department of Labor says represents about two-fifths of a family budget, increased mostly before the enactment of OPA in 1942 and during the mid-Summer lapse. The department has no statistics on increases since decontrol.

Increased rentals in Southern communities were led by an advancement of 136 per cent in Pine Bluff, Ark., 131 per cent in Charleston, S. C., and 130 per cent in Brownsville, Tex. But Stillwater, Okla., reported a 1.4 per cent decrease in rents between 1940 and 1945.

* * *

THE COST OF LIVING in 34 large cities of the United States increased 35.2 per cent between August, 1939, and June, 1946. This is how 10 Southern cities compare with that advance:

Savannah—41.6.
Jacksonville—40.5.
Birmingham—38.6.
New Orleans—38.4.
Norfolk—38.2.
Memphis—37.5.
Atlanta—36.5.
Mobile—34.8.
Richmond—30.8.
Houston—29.6.

The Department of Labor pointed out that a smaller proportionate rise in food and clothing costs and a reduction in utility costs put Houston at the bottom of the list for the entire country. Richmond, third from the national bottom, had a lower increase in meat prices and residential rents.

* * *

A SURVEY OF SMALLER TOWNS, covering June, 1940, to March, 1945, showed a national increase of 26.2 per cent in that period. In small Southern towns, the advance was:

Vicksburg, Miss.—38.8.
Gadsden, Ala.—37.6.
Corpus Christie, Tex.—36.5.
Jonesboro, Ark.—36.3.
Knoxville, Tenn.—34.0.
Chester, S. C.—33.5.
Goldsboro, N. C.—32.8.
Newport News, Va.—31.9.
Little Rock, Ark.—28.3.
Dallas, Tex.—27.9.
Louisville, Ky.—27.0.
Charleston, S. C.—26.5.
Stillwater, Okla.—25.0.

* * *

FOOD COSTS ADVANCED less than the national average in Atlanta, Richmond, Houston and Louisville. Rent increases were less than the national figure in Atlanta, Richmond, Houston, Knoxville, Dallas and Stillwater, according to Labor Department figures.

The department pointedly reported that "living costs are still somewhat lower in Southern cities than costs in a number of Northern cities, but the differences are not as great as they were before the war."

It then compares Southern communities with Northern and Western cities. Food costs in Savannah, for example, were higher in March, 1945, than in any other city except Seattle, Wash. Many other Southern cities likewise reported higher costs than Northern towns.

Tomorrow: Trade unions.

Cooperatives Comparatively Rare Among Southern Labor

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Fri. 11-29-46

BY C. W. GILMORE

ATLANTA, Nov. 29 —(AP)— Except for credit unions and rural electrification associations, Southern labor has done comparitively

Last of a Series

little in developing cooperatives.

The U. S. Department of Labor reports 1,550 credit unions operating in the 13 Southern states. These groups comprise 12 per cent of the nation's credit group membership. The same sates have 339 rural electrification cooperatives.

The vast majority of Southern credit unions are urban associations, with membership drawn largely from industrial and other employes. Otherwise, practically all cooperative development in the South has been in rural areas among farmers.

In medical and hospital care, however, the department says the South is ahead of other sections. Cuban cigar makers in Florida have a community medical project and there are 20 or more cooperative hospitals in rural Texas communities.

In addition to 354 credit unions and 72 REA units, the state has about 50 petroleum associations and many more farmers' marketing groups. Oklahoma also has 60 petroleum groups along with 75 credit unions, 23 REAs and a cooperative hospital.

North Carolina ranks next to Texas with 173 credit unions, 30

REA associations, six student cooperatives and 12 farmers' purchasing cooperatives of which five are operated for Negroes.

The department reported "a great many" farmers' cooperatives in the South which market farm products or purchase farm supplies. It did not review these groups, however, unless consumer goods were sold.

Other cooperative developments by states:

Alabama—80 credit unions, 20 REA, and a number of rural purchasing associations and homestead purchasing groups.

Arkansas—28 credit unions, 18 REA and a few retail distributive associations.

Florida—170 credit unions, 12 REA and a few retail distributive associations.

Georgia—138 credit unions, 44 REA, and several retail coops in low cost housing communities.

Kentucky—108 credit unions and 26 REA.

Louisiana—145 credit unions, 13 REA and four subsistence homestead cooperatives.

Mississippi—27 credit unions, 23 REAs and five homestead coops.

South Carolina—39 credit unions, 24 REA.

Tennessee—127 credit unions and 19 REA.

Virginia—91 credit unions and 15 REA, several farmers' cooperatives and a half dozen urban stores.

William Z. Foster, Fighter for Negro Rights

Daily Worker
New York N.Y.
Sat 8-24-46

By Pettis Perry

LOS ANGELES

In every historical period, people develop their leaders. Whether in the labor movement or broad people's movement this is true; and this is true today when we look at William Z. Foster.

Thousands or perhaps millions of Americans know that Foster, for the last 45 years, has been an outstanding trade union leader, but not half that many realize Foster, at the same time, has been for many years outstanding for Negro rights.

In 1916 and the early '20's, the organized labor movement was making a strong effort to organize the workers in packing and steel. During the years from 1916 to 1921, a big migration of Negroes was flowing into the industries in the north and east, entering the steel and meat industries, particularly in Chicago. It was here that William Z. Foster, then an officer of the Chicago Federation of Labor, began to challenge in an aggressive manner, the historical policy of the top leadership of the AFL of discrimination against Negroes in the American Federation of Labor.

ORGANIZED NEGRO WORKERS

Here it was the question of organizing packinghouse workers into the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Union (now CIO). Foster immediately threw himself into this task.

He began to make a special concentration in Chicago's southside black belt, knowing full well that this was the destiny of the labor movement, that to succeed this must be a union of workers irrespective of race, creed or color, contacting every Negro organization or church as a means of enlisting their aid in organizing the Negro workers. This effort met with great response among the Negro masses.

The company, seeing the response of the Negroes, began a big agitational campaign against the union. During this period, Foster had occasion to write:

". . . the propaganda was sent forth that the only reason the whites were willing to take the blacks into their locals was because the latter, being in a minority, could exert no control; that the whites would not dare to give them a local of their own. This was met by the establishment of a Negro local of miscellaneous workers in a convenient neighborhood. Then the Jimcrow cry was raised that the whites wanted the blacks to herd by themselves. This the organizers answered by insisting that a free transfer system be kept up between the white and black locals. . . Sat 8-24-46

"But even this did not satisfy; the anti-union propaganda went on undiminished and with tremendous effect."

(William Z. Foster, **The Great Steel Strike**, p. 211; also **The Black Workers**, by Spero and Harris.)

UNDERSTOOD PROBLEMS

To maintain the solidarity of workers, Foster later urged the rest of the union leadership to give special attention to the needs of the Negro people.

Even though the Negroes were about 10 percent of the industry, 40 percent of the grievances handled by the union were those of Negroes.

WM. Z. FOSTER
Organized Negro Workers

This showed a clear understanding on Foster's part of the special oppression of the Negro people, and need for a special consideration of their problem.

When the company began to see the tremendous response of the Negro people to the organizing drive, they began all types of provocation. They began to put pressure on the police department to aid in this provocation. Typical of this came in the early part of July 1919. On July 6, 1919, the packinghouse union had planned a mass parade and demonstration as part of their organizing drive. The parade was to take place through the stockyard districts and then gather in a park or playground nearby for their meeting.

Seeing this, the companies went to the police department urging that the permit be revoked, or failing this, that the Negroes and whites march separately, hoping by this maneuver to make it appear to the Negroes that this was Jimcrow.

The union agreed to march separately, nevertheless carrying their banners to bring out their solidarity. The parade was very successful. As the procession of white workers began to march through the colored district, echoing cheers greeted them.

One of the marchers carried a banner that read: "The bosses think that because we are of different nationalities we should fight each other. We are going to fool them, and fight for a common cause—a square deal for all."

FIGHT ANTI-UNION ACTS

Prior to the 1919 drive, that is, about 1917, it is estimated that about 90 percent of the Negroes at that time working in stockyards were members of the union, so the fight to keep this membership was constantly increasing by the new arrivals, was a key job to begin with. Sat 8-24-46

Already during the years of 1916 and 1917, the company was engaged in all types of anti-union activities.

One of their chief tactics was to refuse to bargain with the union, hoping to demoralize the workers.

Confronted with the solid front of the union, the company agreed to submit to arbitration. Everything was submitted to arbitration except one demand which read: 'There shall be no discrimination toward any employe, or prospective employe because of creed, color or nationality."

Such was the role and effect of Foster's leadership in the great Packinghouse Union.

He was not so successful in steel. Because of an age-old policy of discrimination by the steel lodges and because of Foster's inability to convince the leaders of steel to take a more forthright position against discrimination it was not possible to win over completely the Negro masses to the steel unions to the same degree that they were won over in packing.

Those acquainted with the great organizing leadership of the AFL, sabotaged this drive. Such sabotage could not but effect any effort to get through a clear-cut policy of discrimination.

Foster is one of the founders of the Communist Party in America. Today he is the head of the party as national chairman, with the most colorful career of any other member of the Communist Party or any other section of the American working class, in the fight to organize the working class of the United States.

His record everywhere whether in steel, packing, or what have you has been one of fighting to organize workers regardless of race, creed or color into the same union with full equality for Negroes and all other people.

National Labor Committee (NAACP)

Civic Group, Committee Map Joint Labor Plan

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-2-46

Seven-Point Program to Fight Discrimination Practices in Employment Drafted at Meeting

NEW YORK — Joint NAACP and labor action is one of the key objectives of the NAACP's National Labor Committee according to Walter White, executive secretary, who has announced that it will follow a seven-point program.

The National Labor Committee will work with Clarence Mitchell, NAACP Labor Secretary, and former director of field operations for the National FEPC.

Its objectives are:

To Fight Discrimination

1. Elimination of discriminatory employment practices in industry and government which result in refusal to hire colored workers, wage differentials based on race, unequal opportunities for training and promotion, unfair dismissals, and segregation in employment because of race.
2. Greater participation of col-

SCAD to Accept Group Complaints of Unfairness

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-26-46

Reverses Stand of Past Year; Decision Called Victory for American Jewish Congress

NEW YORK — Reversing its stand in refusing to accept complaints of discrimination from organizations but only from individuals, the New York State Commission Against Discrimination, last week, ruled that it will accept such complaints under the Ives-Quinn law.

A subdivision of the law forbids an employer or employment agency from printing or circulating any statement or job application which directly or indirectly expresses discrimination in regard to race, creed, color or national origin unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification.

Previous Practice

SCAD Chairman Henry C. Turner said two cases filed by the American Jewish Congress against companies had been settled during conference and conciliation, and the unlawful employment practice complaint of had been eliminated.

"The commission has never refused to accept a complaint of discrimination for investigation from investigation from any agency, or person. Where complaints have been filed, the unlawful practices have been eliminated at the conference and conciliation set up," Mr. Turner said.

4 Cases of New Rule

He declared that out of the total number of cases for review or investigation, only four would come within the precedent established by this ruling of the commission.

In explaining the ruling, he said the commission had decided that to deny an organization the right to file complaints with the commission would leave it in exactly the same position it was prior to the enactment of the law, and thwart the legislative intent.

Vicory for A.J.C.

The commission's reversal of a stand to which it stuck since the law came into effect in July, 1945, was regarded by observers as a victory for the American Jewish Congress which has repeatedly sought to have the SCAD investigate discriminatory employment practices.

SCAD has now decided that an individual can file a complaint if he has knowledge that discriminatory employment practices exist.

2,300 Complaints

Commissioner Turner said that over 2,300 instances of lawful and unlawful employment practice had come into the commission' office. Over 1700 of these were employment practices of individual employers and employer groups.

Verified individual complaints were filed in 455 cases and in 151 additional investigations the commission had instituted proceedings against employers.

A breakdown of the entire total of complaints and investigations showed that of the 606 case total, 510 were employers, 27 employment agencies; 35 were labor organizations and 34 came under other heads.

SCAD Penalizes Firm in Job Bias Controversy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat.

NEW YORK — A New York realty company paid an employee a week's wages as a penalty in settlement of a case involving charges of discrimination brought about by the State Commission Against Discrimination. 6-29-46

Kenneth Coward, 527 W. 143rd St., was referred to the Mark Rafalsky and Co., real estate, 2112 Broadway, as a passenger elevator operator, but when Coward reported, a job as porter and service car operator was offered him instead.

SCAD Reports First Year's Work Success

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-13-46

NEW YORK — New Yorkers were called on last week by the State Commission Against Discrimination for their continued support in combatting, eliminating and preventing discrimination in employment.

Reviewing their first year's operations, the commission declared the State's Anti-Discrimination Law is proviging an effective instrument for breaking down discriminatory patterns that still exist to a degree. Sat. 7-13-46

Henry C. Turner, chairman of the commission, said qualified members of minority groups were being employed satisfactorily in increasing numbers in insurance companies, utility companies, on bus lines, in department stores and in other establishments. This resulted, he claimed, from conferences with officials in large industries, even where no specific complaint had been registered with his body.

"None of the ill effects forecast by groups who opposed the law before the legislature have been observable," said Commissioner Turner, "and the commission is deeply gratified that the new Law Against Discrimination recently passed by the Massachusetts Legislature is modeled on the New York State Law."

Job application blanks, which heretofore asked discriminatory questions, have been changed to conform with the law by employers' groups, employment agencies and individuals. Due to the commission's intensive work with newspaper publishers, advertising managers and agencies the discriminatory want ad also has been discontinued, the report pointed out.

When it became evident that several complaints of discriminatory practice have been made against firms in the same industry, the commission conferred with leadership in that industry. Explaining and interpreting the law against discrimination has tended to reduce offenses of this type Turner asserted.

Utility companies and the maritime employment situation drew the attention of the commission in its 12 months of operation and the results obtained from numerous investigations and conferences has greatly lessened the biased attitudes in these fields.

In its investigation of labor unions that have provisions in their constitution restricting membership to "white persons only," the commission pointed out such practices must be discontinued. Those guilty, the report continued, all agreed, with the exception of one, to recommend amendments to the next convention of their national organizations.

In the case of the one organization which up to the present time has failed to give such assurance, the commission has directed its general counsel to take the matter up with the attorney general and the industrial commissioner of the state.

Anti-Discrimination Series on the Air

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — The first in a series of seven radio forums giving the history and background of New York's Anit-Discrimination Law was broadcast over Station WEVD, Sunday, at 9:30 p.m.

This will be a weekly feature that will bring to the public interesting and pertinent data on the law. Sat. 9-21-46

Sunday's broadcast revolved around the history and purpose of the law. On Sunday, Sept. 22, Elmer A. Carter, Commissioner of the State Commission Against Discrimination, will tell how to file a complaint charging discrimination.

Speakers for the other five forum discussions will include: Williard Johnson, vice president of the Conference of Christians and Jews; Judge Charles B. Sears; Willis L. Peck, personnel manager of the Revere Copper & Brass Co.; Stewart Beecher, personnel director, Stromberg-Carlson Co.; and others.

The SCAD now has radio time on two local stations, the other being WNEW.

RACE BIAS IS FOUND DECLINING IN STATE

New York Times Sun. 3-18-47

Report to Dewey Notes Illegal Inquiries on Employment Are Now Exceptions

New York, N. Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ALBANY, March 17 — Resistance to the state's anti-discrimination law has decreased to such an extent that "pre-employment discriminatory inquiries are now the rarity rather than the rule," the State Commission against Discrimination reported today to Governor Dewey.

"The operation of the law has definitely resulted in progress in the elimination of illegal discriminatory employment practice," the commission's report for 1946 stated.

"The testimony of people actually engaged in job-replacement activities reveals that fields of opportunity previously closed to certain groups are now open to all, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin. Resistance to the law has lessened, as demonstrated by the fact that employes of all groups are being hired and upgraded into new occupational categories."

In existence only since July 1, 1945, the commission, which is headed by Henry C. Turner of New York City, informed the Governor that it had obtained satisfactory disposition of 290 cases of indicated discrimination in employment during 1946 solely by means of conference.

In not one instance, the report said, was it necessary to resort to punitive action despite the fact that these cases represented more than half of the 567 complaints disposed of during the year. The other 277 complaints were withdrawn, rejected or ruled beyond the commission's purview.

In all, 752 complaints of discrimination, some of them still under consideration, were investigated during the year. Of this number, 442 involved charges of discrimination against Negroes, 118 against those of the Jewish faith and thirty-two against workers of Italian extraction.

The commision itself started action on 174 complaints, while 578 others were brought by individuals. 3-18-47

"One of the major accomplishments of the commission during 1946," the report said, "has been the organization and development of local community councils. The educational division has organized these local affiliates of the commission and has implemented their work by making available a reservoir of audio-visual materials—pamphlets, posters, reprints and radio recordings.

"In addition, the commission has provided technical and clerical assistance to these councils as they have embarked upon local programs of good-will and understanding or when they have instituted local studies of specific areas of human relations." 3-18-47

Among the commission's other achievements, according to the report, were cases in which it prevailed on labor unions to eliminate discriminatory sections of their rules and by-laws, on utilities to broaden employment policies and on employment agencies to cooperate in working against bias.

21a 1946

Job Agencies

Dear Editor: M. New York. N.Y. Tues 3-5-46

The United States Employment Service has recently issued a special plea that all job openings be registered with it. This agency is always one of the first ports of call for the just-discharged serviceman, and there is no charge to either employer or employe for services rendered. Yet a vast number of jobs are being filled daily which are never registered with USES. Why?

The governmental agency absolutely refuses to discriminate between applicants on the basis of race, creed, or color. Such discrimination is, of course, forbidden by the N. Y. State Anti-Discrimination Law, but every privately owned agency in the city depends for its livelihood on the whims of the employers it serves, and will never send a "wrong" type of applicant for an interview. Tues 3-5-46

Why isn't the Ives-Quinn Law enforced? Firstly, enforcement machinery is designed to investigate and prosecute a case only after charges that a discriminatory act has been committed—not to prevent the commission of such acts. Secondly, agencies do not openly discriminate by asking forbidden questions. Any number of excuses can be made for not referring a person to a given job—and the applicant has little or no evidence to support a claim that he is being discriminated against illegally.

Hoboken, N. J. A. R.

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To white collar jobhunters today, the employment agency racket is a major problem. The best advertising, publicity, and clerical jobs are handled through agencies. Their function for the employer—particularly one without a personnel department—is to save the employer's time by weeding out the impossibles, by sending him only persons actually qualified for the job.

But who foots the bill for this service to both employer and employe? The employe alone pays off the agency.

The agencies are getting fat off u and we're getting thin.

New York

'REGARDLESS OF RACE . . .'

USES

U.S. Job Agency Hits Color Bars

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — The United States Employment Service has taken steps to assure Negroes and other racial or religious minorities a fairer stake in available job opportunities.

A new policy has been adopted providing for the non-discriminatory referral to job openings for all racial, religious and other minority groups, Robert C. Goodwin, director, announced this week. Sat 1-26-46

Goodwin said review of the program has been under way since Japan surrendered, and as presently established, is designed to prevent discrimination in referral to job opportunities against any qualified workers on grounds of race, religion, or national origin. He disclosed that the program was drawn up after leaders of the principal minority groups, as well as officials of government agencies affected, were freely consulted.

The policy adopted conforms, generally, to the war-time program of USES, which operated as the placement agency for the War Manpower Commission throughout the war period, Goodwin explained. Principal features of the program are:

1. To register and classify minority group applicants by the same standards that are required for other applicants.

2. Acquire an understanding of employer, organized labor, and community attitudes toward minority groups, and acquaint those groups with federal policy on non-discrimination against workers because of race, creed, and national origin.

3. Advise all employers whose orders for workers include specifications indicating discrimination against any groups because of creed, race, or national origin that such employment practices are contrary to national policy and defeat community objectives for maintaining high levels of employment.

4. Indicate by personal visits to employers inclined to practice discrimination the economic saving and enrichment of the local community by utilization of local, qualified workers.

B. A. Hold D. C. Parley

As the first step in the implementation of the new policy, a conference of representatives from each regional office of the United States Employment Service was held in Washington on Jan. 15 and 16.

In the opening conference, Edward L. Keenan, deputy USES director, stressed that the purpose of the USES is to provide free employment service both to workers and employers.

"Much was accomplished during the war years in eliminating prejudicial hiring practices on grounds of race, creed and national origin," Keenan said. "In the era now coming we want to build upon those accomplishments."

The new policy will be put into operation as soon as instructions to the field are completed and distributed—in all probability within the next week. Immediately following an intensive training program will be set into motion, stemming from the national office and channeling down to every level of operation. The training program is aimed to facilitate a clear understanding of the policy as well as to spell out methods and procedures by which it may be applied by every individual charged with responsibility in the USES offices, in whatever capacity. Sat 1-26-46

The success of the policy for each individual will depend not only on the training, which in itself will be compulsory for each individual, but also on the supervision which will also be applied at every level. This supervision will be supplied by direct line communication from the national to the regional offices. The regional offices will be held responsible for state and local office supervision.

While the new policy is enforceable only so long as USES offices are under federal control, it is hoped that the policy will have so proved its value so as to be maintained if and when the employment offices are returned to the states. Moreover, it is expected that legislation currently under consideration both for retention by the federal government for another year, as well as those requiring return of the offices at an earlier date, will carry non-discrimination provisions against racial, religious and other minority groups.

While the new USES policy provides that each office shall undertake an educational program with employers with the hope of helping them to see the gross economic loss in discriminatory hirings, instructions to the field will provide that in the referral of workers, each office will fill job orders with all qualified available workers, no matter what the employer's racial specifications.

In states, particularly the South, where separate offices are maintained for Negroes, it is provided that free clearance of all job orders between the two offices will be maintained.

The USES offices will continue to supply the Fair Employment Practices Committee with information on discrimination. While the FEPC is powerless to issue directives except in the area of federal employment, the information supplied by USES offices in other areas of employment will permit investigation, fact-finding, recommendations, and reporting to the President by the committee as provided in the new executive order recently issued by the President.

Already information coming out of the various communities point to a step-up in employers' job orders reaching local USES offices requesting white, male, Gentile workers.

The new training program will operate under the supervision of R. D. Fletcher, chief of the Standards and Methods Division, and appropriate training materials will be made available to the 1,700 local USES offices throughout the country.

USES Back to the States

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-14-46

The news that the Department of Labor on November 16 will restore the 1,800 local offices of the U. S. Employment Service to the various States is received with some misgivings.

Under Federal control the USES was guilty of more or less subtle forms of color discrimination in assigning jobs, and now we may expect to hear more complaints of such discrimination than formerly, especially in the South.

However, since the Federal Government will continue to fully finance these offices, an effective protest can be made to Washington whenever any local office resorts to discriminatory practices.

Since all of the people are paying for this service, they must see to it that it serves all of the people alike.

USES Planning No Job Policy Change

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

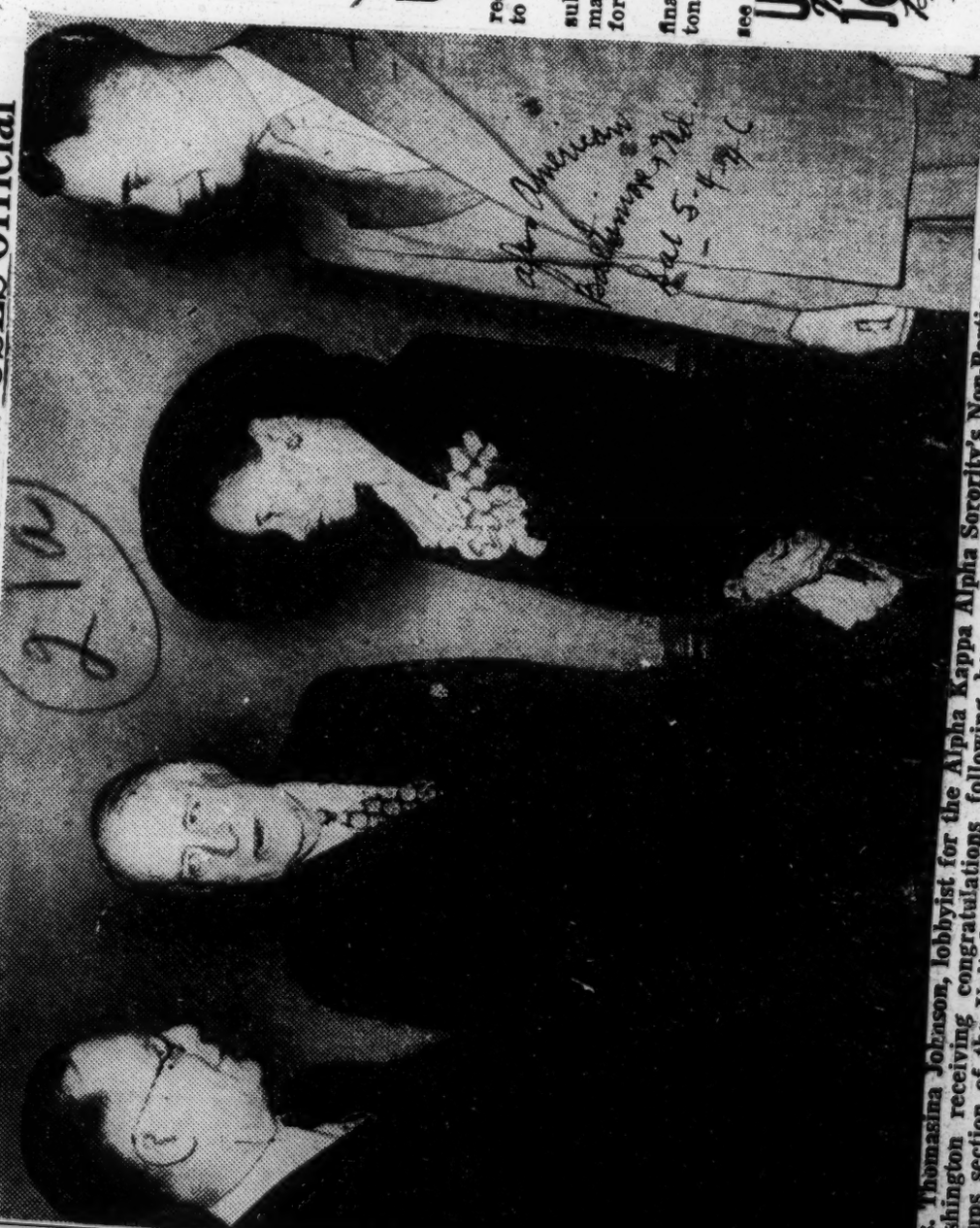
Memorandum Reaffirms Old Biased Procedure

Sat. 2-15-46

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The post-war United States Employment Service will continue to service discriminatory hiring orders, it was revealed Friday when the Labor Department made public a memorandum to all regional directors of the USES concerning policy and procedures for handling orders which discriminate against minority groups.

Robert C. Goodwin, director of the USES, who signed the memorandum, simply reiterated policy enunciated by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach several months ago. According to this memorandum, it was discriminatory hiring orders will

Congratulations in Order for New USES Official



Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, lobbyist for the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Non-Partisan Council, is shown in Washington receiving congratulations following her appointment last week as chief of the minority groups section of the United States Employment Service. The position pays $7,775 annually. The post was left vacant by the resignation of Benjamin Wilson of Gary, Ind. Pictured, left to right, are Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach, Sen. David I. Walsh (Dem., Mass.); Mrs. Johnson and Robert C. Goodwin, director of the USES.

not be rejected, but the employer will be informed that the best qualified workers will be selected and referred to him. Applicants are to be selected without regard to race or color.

Will Call Employer

If the applicant is a member of a prescribed race or religious group, the interviewer responsible for filling the order is instructed to call the employer and seek an interview for the applicant.

If the employer refuses to amend his specifications, the memorandum states, "it should be explained that in carrying out our policy of promoting equitable employment opportunities for all workers we cannot, as a public agency, refuse to refer any qualified worker who wishes to be referred."

The interviewer is instructed to explain to the applicant the action taken in his behalf with the understanding that if the applicant wished to be referred, a referral card will be given.

Personnel Instructed

The memorandum outlined certain means of persuading employers to eliminate discrimination in their orders for personnel and called on all employers to report cases of discrimination against any one group.

Regional and State directors were ordered to assign one or more individuals the responsibility for providing technical assistance in carrying out the new program and State directors were ordered to take immediate steps to set up a training program in local offices to implement the program.

Mr. Goodwin ordered all State directors to promptly issue the new field instruction without change to all local offices under their jurisdiction, "except in those States where State laws do not permit acceptance of discriminatory orders."

liam H. Jernagin, president of the National Baptist Young People's Union; Robert C. Weaver of the American Council on Race Relations; and Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, chief of the minority groups section of the USES.

The policy announced by Mr. Schwellenbach involves no departure from practices of the USES in filling job requisitions. It permits the public employment offices to accept discriminatory hiring orders, to refer workers on the basis of race or religion, and to follow the same patterns of segregation that has heretofore been followed by the USES under Federal operation.

Issues Statement

The statement presented to conferees by Mr. Schwellenbach last Friday follows:

"It is the policy of the United States Employment Services to promote equitable employment opportunities for all applicants on the basis of their skills, abilities and job qualifications and to make definite and continuous effort with employers with whom relationship has been established, to the end that their hiring specifications be based exclusively on job performance factors."

The statement was drawn up in the form of a memorandum and marked "USES policy on service to minority groups. Approved Sept. 27, 1946." It was not made public and the department would not comment as to what was discussed when the group met.

While expressing approval of Mr. Schwellenbach's announcement of the end of segregation in the local USES offices, Mr. Mitchell declared that minorities were dealt a body blow at the same time because the Labor Department indicated that discriminatory job orders will still be accepted and filled by public employment offices after their return to the States.

Policy Rapped

"In other words," Mitchell said, "on Nov. 15, when the USES goes back to the States, the Labor Department will begin passing out $42,000,000 for the operation of offices but will not prevent them from discriminating against the millions of Jews, colored people and Latin Americans who help pay the bill."

Mitchell added that the policy announced by Mr. Schwellenbach to govern public employment offices after their return to the States "expresses some pious platitudes but will accomplish nothing." He said he understood it was adopted "because of high-pressure tactics by certain State interests."

Charles W. Davis, chairman of the local affairs committee of the American Veterans Committee, congratulated Schwellenbach for his action, adding "an unemployed veteran surely is entitled to equality of opportunity in getting a job and should not be discriminated against by a Government agency because of his color."

Segregation Abandoned at Washington USES, But New Order Carries a Joker

Agency Will Continue to Fill Requests for 'White Only,' Says Schwellenbach

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Racial segregation of job seekers in the District of Columbia office of the United States Employment Service was ordered abolished, effective last Monday, by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach.

His action in ending segregation in the local USES office was dimmed by his restatement on the same day of a meaningless policy to be followed by the public employment offices after their return to the States Nov. 15. Under this policy, the public employment offices will continue to fill discriminatory hiring requisitions.

The fight for abolition of race segregation in the local USES offices was spearheaded by the United Public Workers of America (CIO) and was brought to a head by the letter of former Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace protesting to Mr. Schwellenbach against the dual setup.

In Effect Monday

In abolishing segregation in the procedures, will be effective Monday, Sept. 30.

"Mr. Robert C. Goodwin, director of the United States Employment Services has, at my request, worked out the plan that will eliminate separate lines for white and colored applicants, separate sets of interviewers, two sets of files, and other dual operations within the offices.

"Equitable treatment will thus be afforded all job applicants with improved efficiency in the organization."

He added that abandonment of segregation in District offices had been under consideration for a long time.

The new procedure was to be put into effect by the regional and District units.

Reaffirms Old Policy

Mr. Schwellenbach re-stated USES policy to be followed by the public employment offices after their return to the States at a conference with representatives of minority groups last Friday.

This conference was attended by Clarence Mitchell, labor secretary of the NAACP; the Rev. Wil-

Sincerity Lacking in Schwellenbach's Plea to Drop Job Discrimination

Has Power to Act in USES Bias Practices but Professes to Be Stumped by Tradition

By LOUIS LAUTIER

WASHINGTON

To be Biblical, Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach's plea for an end of race and religious discrimination against workers, made in his Labor Day speech, was as empty as a tinklin' cymbal or sounding brass.

Mr. Schwellenbach has it within his power to do something about job discrimination, since the United States Employment Service, which is notorious for its discriminatory practices in referrals, is under the Labor Department.

act of the Federal Housing Administration, Wilson Wyatt, national housing expediter, reprimanded the guilty Government's policy of non-discrimination in employment.

James E. Hicks, personnel director of FHA, instructed all job applicants shall be given the same consideration without regard to race or religion.

Schwellenbach Pussyfooted

But Mr. Schwellenbach pussyfooted. He professed to be stumped by the problem because the discriminatory practices are of long standing. He might have dismissed Robert C. Goodwin, director of the USES, and Fred Hoehler, director of the local USES offices for violating the Government's non-discrimination policy.

Or he could have issued a directive to the USES to cease its discriminatory practices, to refer job applicants to vacancies in Federal agencies on the basis of their qualifications without regard to race or religion, and not to service discriminatory hiring orders.

Instead of being dismissed, Mr. Goodwin, upon Mr. Schwellenbach's recommendation, has been appointed a delegate to the first session of the Permanent Committee on Migration of the International Labor Organization, which convened Aug. 26 in Montreal, Canada.

The agenda for this meeting includes racial discrimination in connection with migration.

USES Back to States

In less than three months the USES will be turned back to the States. The Federal Government might have will bear the cost of operation, but will exercise no control and the States will be free to operate the offices in any manner they may choose.

One of the functions of the USES is to certify persons for unemployment compensation, in which case the applicants must report to the State employment offices for job opportunity, and must continue to report to be eligible for unemployment compensation.

New Jobs Open In Vets' Agency

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-28-46

Employment Service Hires Negro Aides

NEW YORK — Employment of Negroes on policy-making levels within the Veterans' Employment Service (USES) was disclosed by Perry Faulkner, VES Chief, in a recent conference with National Urban League officials.

Faulkner also announced a plan for hiring additional Negro personnel under an expanded VES program which authorizes Assistant and Field Assistant Employment Representatives working in coordination with State USES offices, but responsible to the VES office in Washington.

Faulkner stated that a Negro Assistant Veterans' Employment representative was already working in the District of Columbia, with others in Ohio, Michigan, and New York. He said that "as soon as it is feasible . . . we should like to have in those sattes where it is deemed necessary, Negro Assistant Veterans Employment representatives to serve on State Veterans Employment staffs."

A Veteran Is A Veteran

In a re-statement of the Veterans' Employment Service nondiscrimination policy, Faulkner said, "A 'veteran' is defined for us by law and we do not have any inclination to look at it in any other light. A veteran is a veteran, be he white, Negro, or of any other race."

Under the present VES plan, there is one Veterans' representative in each state, which is broken down into areas, with Assistants and Field assistants allocated according to veteran population. These assistants are responsible for maintaining regular contact with employers and veterans' organizations with a view to keeping employers advised of veterans available for employment and veterans advised of opportunities.

Report Points Up Bias

In a report on "Adjustment of Negro veterans" issued in March and sent to USES officials, the National Urban League noted that the Veterans' Employment Service had made "little or no effort to utilize Negro personnel in its counseling and job-finding programs." Negro veterans seeking assistance, the report stated, expressed "a lack of confidence in this agency's efforts to secure employment for them, particularly in jobs other than the traditional Negro jobs."

A league spokesman commenting on the new VES program, called attention to the numerous conferences held by Urban League officials with VA, USES and other Department of Labor personnel in an effort to facilitate placement of Negro veterans and to eliminate discrimination throughout all the states.

Southern Justice Again

New Republic

SIR: It is news when an official of Arkansas condemns an "outside" organization for not "interfering" in the affairs of the state. 4-29-46

The Workers' Defense League has been working for a pardon for Tee Davis, Negro tenant farmer serving ten years for shooting at a white sheriff who illegally broke into his home. At the request of Mrs. Davis, the League supplied the money for her to employ a local attorney in an attempt to secure a farm furlough for her husband, pending action on the pardon application. We did this to help quell the old bugaboo of "outside interference" and because that is the way the Davises wanted it, although the League is opposed to the farm-furlough system as a form of peonage which gives the worker no effective means of protest against unjust wages and working conditions.

At the open hearing—an unprecedented procedure—on the furlough application, the secretary of the state parole board condemned the Workers' Defense League for not appearing on Davis' behalf, and the furlough was denied. Either way, Davis loses and white justice triumphs in Arkansas.

Lillian Smith relates the story: "One night, Tee Davis, a black man, refused to open the door of his little shack when a white man kicked the door and yelled at him to open up. Instead Davis, afraid of thieves, picked up his shotgun, aimed it at the bottom of the door and fired. No one was hurt. But the voice ordering him to open the door belonged to a white sheriff, and, though he had no warrant and had not said that he was sheriff, he arrested Tee Davis. The white plantation owners saw to it that the black man was sentenced to ten years in prison." Mon. 4-29-46

Local papers report that the files of Governor Ben Laney at Little Rock are several inches thick with correspondence on the Davis case, protesting the conditions in Arkansas, where a black man is imprisoned for defending his home. *New Republic* readers throughout the country should add their letters and wires to the protests.

ROWLAND WATTS, Associate National Secretary, Workers' Defense League

New York City

Lynch Threat Victim To Get Jury Hearing

Daily Worker

Atlanta, Ga

7-26-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A federal grand jury in Florida may soon receive for consideration the case of Mack Fryar, Negro farmer who was threatened with lynching after he gave the Workers Defense League affidavits charging that the Lake County sheriff had fractured his skull in arresting him early in 1945.

This was announced by Rowland Watts, associate WDL secretary following a conference here with justice department officials. Fryar and his wife were at the conference. Friday

The League brought the couple to New York City for safety after the lynch threat, Fryar has joined the cafeteria employees union and has been working in cafeterias.

21b 1946

Absence of Colored Carpenters on Howard Construction Hit

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The absence of colored carpenters from the construction of three dormitories at Howard University was deplored this week by Livingston E. Beane, industrial secretary of the Washington Urban League.

Mr. Beane said he knew of at least 40 colored carpenters who are members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America who could qualify to work for the contracting firm, Roth Schenker company, under terms of the union contract existing between that firm and the Carpenters' District Council.

An investigation by the AFRO last week revealed that none of the carpenters employed in the construction of the dormitories under an FPHA program, are colored.

Sat 4-6-46

More to Be Added

Roth Schenker company is now employing 10 carpenters on the job but expects to expand this number to 60 before completion of the project late in April.

Contrary to the statement of Beane, however, J. J. Blackburn, secretary-treasurer of the local council, said last week that the union has only two or three colored members now as contrasted to as many as 80 during the war.

So far as he knew none of these men were employed at the Howard University project, but he added that they were eligible for employment there.

Beane said that the Carpenters' District Council has pursued a consistent anti-colored policy throughout the years and declared that it was only with the help of one or two liberal white members that colored carpenters gained admittance to the council at all.

Recalls First Admisson

He continued that about 1942, two retired white members of the council agreed to "vouch" for two colored carpenters, under the council's regulations, so that they might gain admittance and pave the way for other applicants.

From this small beginning, colored membership in the District Council rose to at least 40, Beane declared.

He pointed out that in view of the Government's proposed housing program for veterans, it is essential that colored craftsmen become integrated in the activities of labor unions in order that they may gain their share of the money which will be spent in these undertakings.

The Carpenters' District Council is an independent union composed of seven locals and located in the Carpenters" Building at 1033 10th St., N.W. According to union officials, none of the locals discriminate against colored applicants.

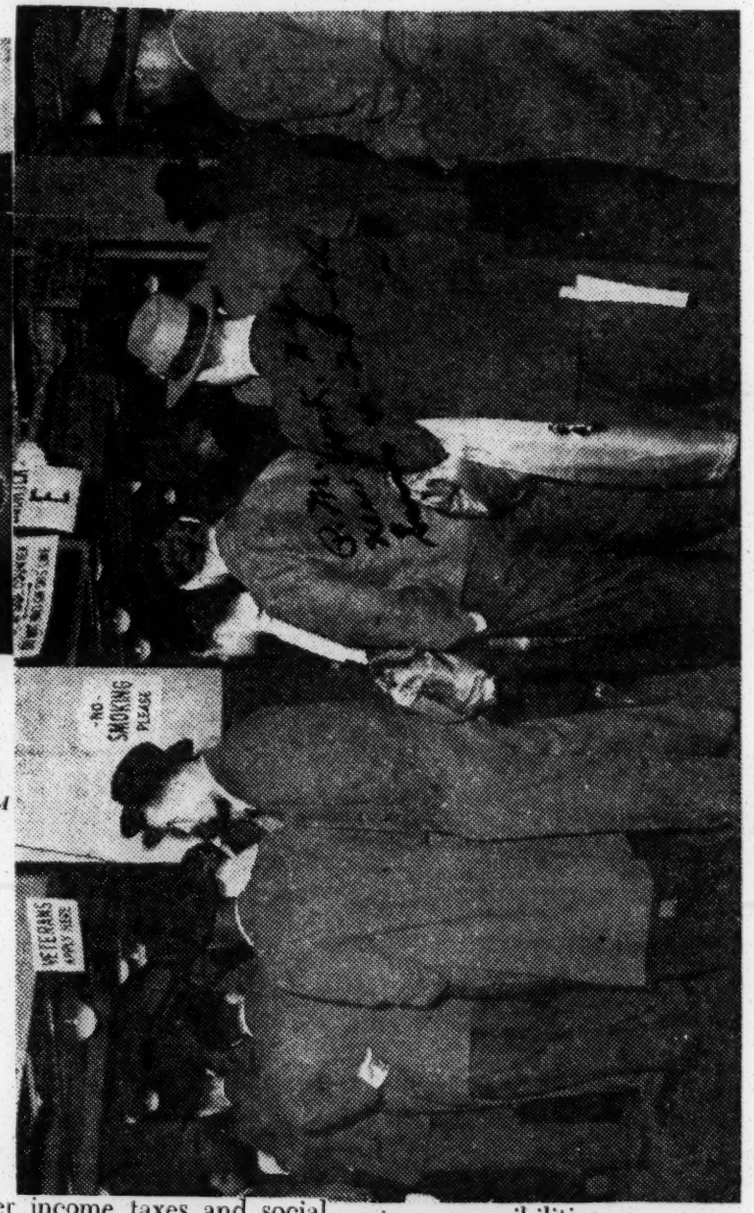
Coal Mine Inspectors Wanted by Government

The Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The U.S. Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for probational appointment of Coal Mine Inspectors (CAF-7 to CAF-12) at a salary of $3,397 to $5,905. Applications, accompanied by a 250-word description of some phase of coal mining, must reach the Commission not later than Nov. 7. Sat. 10-26-46

Half-Million Jobless in State—Half of Them Vets



Robert Washinsky (left), 22, married ex-M/Sgt., with three years of service in India, checks the job offerings at the USES. "Sure I can get jobs," he says, "from $20 to $25 a week, but a married man can't run a home on that. I need at least $35 to $40." Veteran John Hamilton (right) is also married and has been offered hotel jobs at $19. *Photos by John DeBiase, PM*

By Bruce Todrin

Here's how the unemployment situation shapes up in the State and City: P.M.

¶ There are a half-million persons without jobs in the State.

¶ Half of these are in New York City alone. New York, N.Y.

¶ Half of all the State's jobless are veterans.

The figures break down like this, according to the Department of Placement and Unemployment Insurance: Sun 4-28-46

	civilians	*veterans*
State:	226,700	244,900
City:	115,000	154,000

These are the latest figures available, for the week ended April 12.

But they do not show the whole unemployment picture by a long shot, since they are based on civilians drawing unemployment insurance and veterans receiving $20 readjustment allowance a week.

Joseph B. O'Connor, regional USES director, points out that many civilian unemployed already have exhausted their insurance claims, while others, having worked in shops of less than four employes, never were entitled to draw on the unemployment insurance pool.

There are also large numbers of veterans, O'Connor says, who have not yet filed for their adjustment allowances, are hospitalized or going to school, although more and more are applying daily.

Under the Serviceman's Readjustment Act (GI Bill of Rights), the unemployed veteran is entitled up to $20 a week for a maximum of 52 weeks. Many vets who have been running into low-paying jobs ranging from $20 to $30 a week feel that they're better off by getting their $20, which is non-taxable, to putting in a week's work for pretty much the same take-home pay after income taxes and social security deductions have been taken off.

The unemployment veteran's pool is made up of:

¶ Boys who went into service at the age of 18, with little or no work experience.

¶ Men who were taught new skills by the government with no civilian market for them.

¶ Men who married while in service and have new families and greater responsibilities.

¶ Unskilled workers who learned the trade of soldiering, and nothing else. Sun 4-28-46

I talked to some of the ex-GIs applying for industrial jobs at the U. S. Employment Service reception desk at 87 Madison Ave. The way it looks to them is told in captions under their pictures on this page.

Add the growing numbers of jobless vets like these on a nation-wide basis and you will get close to a personal approach to employers. If necessary, 2,000,000, according to the American Veterans Committee. out the country are canvassing em- the employer several times, to remind

Spokesmen for USES and the ployers on their needs. They are ing for jobs, that vets are still looking American Veterans Committee are finding out just what type of per- possible opening, that may have hopeful that the current stream- sonnel is required. Their reports occurred since his last call. lined USES drive for more jobs for in, local area offices then try to fill The AVC, recognizing the fact vets will click. It's based on a the bill with the right kind of help.

Ex-GIs queue up for industrial and transport jo

that most of the unemployed vets are semi-skilled or unskilled, is surveying the possibilities for expanding the on-the-job training program.

Under this program, vets are schooled on-the-spot in plant or shop for a minimum of 400 hours of actual work-training plus 144 hours of classroom instruction under experts in a given field. The Government pays the single trainee $65, the married one $90 a month. The co-operating employer adds the rest, the idea being to pay the in-training vet comparable minimum wages for his type of work at the accepted scale.

Vets, USES and veterans' groups are agreed that the job is one involving the whole community. The boys say they went over there to fight. Now they're back and they'd like to be called Mister again—at decent, living wages.

Jimcrow Flies the Airlines

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By John Meldon

Negro fliers were good enough to battle the enemy over Italy, others were good enough to hurtle American Transport Command planes over the Atlantic in all kinds of weather during the war—but you can't find a Negro pilot on a single American commercial plane today. Sat. 11-16-46

It's about the neatest discriminatory job in the annals of Jimcrow and done so cleverly that a big airline official was able to say to me during an interview:

"We lean over backward not to discriminate."

This was Bert Webb, chief of eastern personnel for Trans World Airlines and Webb actually seemed to feel very badly about the rigid enforcement of racial bars once a plane leaves the ground.

"There were a couple of nice colored boys here the other day—they had flown in the Army's Transport Command, but they had only about 800 flying hours to their credit and the government is strict about commercial pilots. A commercial pilot must have at least 2,000 hours of 'first' flying time, as a captain pilot."

NEGRO AVIATORS?

"What about those first-rate pilots who flew the famous 99th in Italy—the Negro aviators? Suppose some of those fliers wanted to get a job with TWA—how would they go about it?" we asked.

"If they can meet the requirements," Mr. Webb said, **"they would not be barred because of race. The fact is, we turn down hundreds of applications from white fliers simply because they have not had enough flying time."**

So we checked a little further. We spoke to a Negro editor on one of the large Negro publications who had been a member of the famous 99th. He chose to remain anonymous, but said Negro fliers were principally trained by the Army as pursuit pilots or flying big transport planes. Pursuit pilots cannot qualify as commercial passenger plane pilots unless they receive sufficient re-training.

"And no one is undertaking to give these Negro fliers the chance to retrain for the commercial lines," he said. **"That applies to the armed forces as well as the private airlines."**

BENJ. O. DAVIS, Jr.
Led Negro Flyers in War

NEGROES BARRED

In other words, Negro fliers are being barred from an opportunity to meet commercial airlines specifications. Heroic exploits in combat apparently mean nothing now that peace is here.

However, Jimcrow does not sink its claws into the important categories of ground crews. For every pilot, there are roughly eight ground employes, ranging from porters to high-skilled mechanics. The Air Transport Division of the Transport Workers Union has battled every instance of Jimcrow in the employment of ground crew workers and thus far has had fine success. The TWU does not organize among the pilots. The latter are in the AFL's Airline Pilots Association.

What we found in the TWA also holds true for the remainder of the big and small airlines. Jimcrow flies the pilots' seats in all places of the United, the Eastern, the Northwest lines, the Braniff Airways, Pennsylvania Central, the Northeast, the Colonial, National, Delta, Midcontinent, the Western the American Overseas and the Matson line.

Eastern Airlines simply couldn't find anyone who knew anything about the subject of hiring Negro pilots when we talked to them. The same held true for American Airlines. Nobody seemed to be willing to stick his neck out on the subject.

But there are no Negro fliers on our airlines today.

Only White Flyers Hired by Commercial Air Lines

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Others 'Lack Flying Time,' Executives Say; Yet Pilots Get No Chance for More Training

Sat. 11-30-46

NEW YORK (ANP)—Though colored flyers were used in World War II in the European campaign and piloted planes of the American Transport Command across the Atlantic, not one in this country has been hired by a commercial airline.

Airline executives, questioned as to why these flyers are not hired, say that they do not have enough "flying time," as did Bert Webb, chief of Eastern personnel for Trans World Airlines, who said that commercial pilots must have at least 2,000 hours in the air.

The other side of the story was presented by a former member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron in Italy, who said that colored men were trained by the Army as pursuit, and transport flyers who are not eligible for commercial flying without further training.

No Chance to Retrain

"No one is willing to give these flyers the chance to retrain for the commercial lines," he said. "That applies to the Army as well as the private airlines."

Efforts to jim crow ground crews of airlines have been forestalled by the Transport Workers' Union, AFL. Here the minority are hired as porters and highly skilled mechanics. The TWU, however, does not organize among pilots. 11-30-46

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
July 23, 1946

LABOR IS SCARCE IN SOUTH ALABAMA

MOBILE, Ala., July 22—(AP)—While hundreds of Negroes remain on the lists of the unemployed in Mobile, an official of the U. S. Employment Service reported today that there is a shortage of labor for farming and sawmill operatons in several South Alabama counties.

Leonard G. Payne, area director for the USES, said there are jobs waiting for Negroes in the rural areas of this district.

"They are reluctant to leave the city," he explained. "They came here—and went to other large industrial centers—during the war, and now they don't like the idea of going back to the farm."

A large percentage of Mobile's 10,500 unemployed are Negroes, although no exact figure was available.

Payne's area includes Clarke, Monroe, Washington, Escambia, Conecuh, Butler, Crenshaw, Coffee, Covington, Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

The area director pointed out that there is an almost continuous movement of workers between the small town and rural areas of this district and Mobile.

21c 1946

California

Race Discrimination

Washington, D.C.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

Congressional Record

HON. ELLIS E. PATTERSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1946

Mr. PATTERSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of the Congress and the Department of Labor the fact that the United States Employment Office at 1100 South Flower Street recently had a sign posted in one of its information windows reading, "For white applicants only."

We do not like that sort of thing in California anymore than any decent American should tolerate it in any part of the United States. I think it is necessary that the matter be investigated by the Labor Department, and that the persons responsible for this flagrant violation of United States Government policy, and our Constitution, be properly dealt with. Wed 4-17-46

It is disgrace enough in the eyes of the watching world, that the United States needs a fair employment practices commission after having fought a war against racial and religious discrimination. That one is necessary, is more than obvious when an office of the United States Government fosters the very subversive, undermining, divide-and-conquer tactics of our recent enemies.

The question of America growing up and living in accordance with the precepts of our Constitution becomes more pressing every day. We now are hearing from discharged servicemen the stories of vicious discrimination in the armed forces.

The War Department's further promotion of Jim Crow during the war, has accentuated tensions which have no right to occur in twentieth-century society, and which could have been eliminated if a decent and proper program had been worked out by those planning an effective American military force.

Now, as a veteran, the Negro soldier is returning to a world even more difficult for him than before.

The GI bill of rights, which we have enacted, is inadequate enough; but, in the educational provisions of this bill, we did not provide that discrimination and quotas by the schools and universities should be laid aside.

In housing, to get a GI loan on a house, it must be within a certain price range, and under 12 years old. We did not provide that restrictive covenants—by which the majority of such residences are covered—must be set aside for any veteran who needs housing.

The most important phase of the GI bill provides readmission to jobs and reasonable preference to veterans on new ones. We overlooked the fact that discrimination, for one or another vicious reason, is a part of our employment system, and did not include provisions in the bill to prevent discrimination because of race, religion, color, creed, or national origin. Wed 4-17-46

It is understood that there should be no race discrimination in the carrying out of any of our laws.

21c 1946

D. C.

State Dep't Prejudiced?

Civil Service Probes Discrimination Charge

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The United States Civil Service Commission is investigating charges by Chester Bowles, OPA administrator, that the State Department and three other Federal agencies here are discriminating against colored persons in the hiring of Government employes, Arthur S. Flemming, Civil Service commissioner, disclosed Wednesday.

Mr. Flemming said an investigation had been launched immediately after receipt of Bowles' charges and that following the report of the investigation a series of recommendations will be sent to the heads of the agencies concerned.

LETTER CHARGES DISCRIMINATION

In a letter to the commission last Dec. 4, Bowles stated that colored employes released from OPA because of reductions in force were finding it virtually impossible to secure employment in a number of agencies because of discriminatory hiring practices.

In emphasizing that the commission would run down any such charges made to it, Mr. Flemming revealed that in a recent meeting with the directors of personnel of Federal agencies here, he had taken up the matter of racial discrimination pointing out to them that it is contrary to Civil Service regulations and urging them to see that it is not practiced in their departments."

W. Pierce MacCoy, chief of the Division of Departmental Personnel, emphatically denied that his agency required applicants for messengers to be "white, male and gentile," as Bowles' letter charged.

"I cannot understand how the charge originated," said MacCoy. "All of our messengers here are colored and many of them are girls whom we hired during the war. We have Negro groups in varying grades in the State Department. I have two colored stenographers and a file clerk in my immediate office."

Commenting on Bowles' charge that the Weather Bureau of the Department of Commerce was not interested in interviewing colored people for employment, C. Garton Swain, cheif of personnel at the Weather Bureau, said:

"It's news to me. We don't discriminate against Negro personnel here. We hired a lot of them during the war when everyone was hiring them."

Emmer Martin Lancaster, racial adviser for the Department of Commerce, could not be reached for comment on the charge respecting the Weather Bureau.

Mr. Bowles also called the attention of the commission to the Naval Research Laboratory's statement that it has no colored employes and no facilities for any. He further charged the Civil Aeronautics Administration with telling a colored applicant, who was a graduate of Howard University, that it did not anticipate any vacancies for which she might qualify.

CHICAGO DEFENDER columnist Charley Cherokee wrote: "The State Department last week retired with ceremony another Negro messenger after 34 years of service—Augustus Lee. Like those before him and those still there he did executive work but started out as a messenger and ended up as a messenger. He trained new white executives in state intricacies and qualifies as a diplomat, but all he gets is the usual ceremony, traveling bag, watch and purse now that he's worn himself out."

Whites Quit When U.S. Agency Integrates Staff

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Miss Francis O. Kelly, employer relations counsel of the Commerce Department, said last Friday she had called for a full report from Fred Koneman, administrative officer of the Industry Division of the Census Bureau at Suitland, Md., concerning a charge that six white women had resigned when an attempt was made to integrate colored and white personnel in that division.

According to reports, the division was reorganized under orders from the Commerce Department, of which it is a part, and in the reshuffle of personnel, colored and white employees were integrated in the Census Bureau for the first time.

Several white employees were said to have resented the move, and six white women were reported to have submitted their resignations.

Probe Ordered

Dr. Oliver C. Short, personnel director for the Commerce Department, said last Thursday he had not heard of the incident but called in Miss Kelly and instructed her to investigate the report.

Attempting to pass over the matter lightly, Miss Kelly appeared bored and asked the reporter what difference did it make if the girls had resigned. "You can't stop people from quitting their jobs," she added.

Questioned concerning the department's policy of integration, Miss Kelly said she did not know of any written policy but that it was her belief the Commerce Department had always taken the lead in fair treatment of its colored workers.

Upholds Segregation

She was reminded that at one time colored employees had been segregated in the Commerce Department's cafeteria.

Miss Kelly presented arguments to show that this might not have been such a bad idea after all because at that time the colored cafeteria workers had had a special dining room, all to themselves, and that when it was taken from them some of the girls had complained to her that they now had to get dressed to go into the integrated dining room and eat.

Miss Kelly refused to get in touch with the Census Bureau by telephone, stating that she would make a personal trip to Suitland to investigate the matter.

Denies Resignations

A call to Koneman brought a denial of the report that the women had resigned as a result of the incident. Koneman declined to comment further on the matter.

Reached again late Friday, Miss Kelly said she had made a trip to Suitland and found nothing to get excited about. She said she failed to see why there should be public interest in the matter and suggested that newspapers often could do more harm than good by delving into such incidents.

Replying to a direct question, however, she admitted she had called for a full report of the incident from Koneman.

Civil Service Finds USES Guilty

WASHINGTON

Civil Service Commissioner Flemming revealed on Monday that an investigation by the Civil Service Commission had sustained charges by the United Federal Workers of America that the United Federal Workers of America that the United States Employment Service here discriminates because of race in referring workers to Federal jobs here.

As a result, he told a UFWA delegation he had written USES requesting that discrimination be discontinued and that another investigation would be conducted shortly to determine whether improvements had been made.

In its original complaint last week, the union pointed out that Federal agencies, forced to do theri own hiring under an Executive order, were recruiting through the local USES which maintains separate filed for its applicants.

Federal Order Ignored

Because the setup was resulting in habitual discrimination by the agency, the union added, use of it for Federal hiring was contrary to the Presidential order specifically banning discrimination in Federal hiring.

The UFWA, which had requested a return of recruiting to Civil Service Commission control following Commissioner Flemming's admission, renewed its demand that agencies be banned from recruiting workers through USES as long as the segregation remains.

The situation arose, it has been revealed, when placement of Federal workers was taken away from the commission that competitive registers for permanent Federal appointments could be set up.

Wilson Resigns U.S. Employment Service Post

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Benjamin F. Wilson, head of the Minority Group Section of the United States Employment Service, has submitted his resignation to the director to become affective March 29, it is learned.

Wilson, an attorney of Gary, Ind., came to the agency in October, 1944, succeeding Dr. Robert C. Weaver, who resigned reportedly because of his dissatisfaction over the "hamstrung" position which the minority groups section inherited in a move in which the War Manpower Commission, where it formerly belonged, placed it in the Bureau of Placement, thereby cutting off any direct line between the office and that of the administrator, Paul V. McNutt.

Following the close of the war, President Truman, in another reorganizational move, placed the United States Employment Service in the Department of Labor under Secretary Lewis B. Schwellenbach, but still relegated to a sub-office concerned with training and placement.

Recently a new placement policy has evolved from this set-up which proposes that USES offices will take every step to discourage the submission of discriminatory job specifications by employers when seeking employees for job openings. That, failing to convince employers that such specifications are uneconomical, and impractical, the interviewer will proceed to fill the order with all available, qualified workers regardless of race.

This policy was released to the field early in January. Waiting for its release was one of the things which held up Mr. Wilson's resignation beyond V-J Day, since it was his hope to get it into the field and into operation before he left the agency to which he came as a war emergency measure.

Wilson has requested that Kenneth Banks, formerly with the Regional WMC office in Cleveland, who has been in Washington since early January, assisting in developing the training program, be retained.

No Successor Named

The USES director has not officially replied to Wilson's letter of resignation. However, it is anticipated that he will acquiesce with the request. No immediate successor has been mentioned.

Wilson will resume his law practice in Gary, Indiana, where he is closely identified with civic, social and religious activities. He was appointed by former Gov. Henry Shricker to the Indiana Committee On the Employment of Negroes. He is a member of the Interracial Committee of the Gary Chamber of Commerce, the Council of Churches, the local Bar Association, and the City Planning Commission of Gary.

USES Head Says Dual System "Foolproof"

(NNPA).—While the local United States Employment Service still maintains separate lines for white and colored job applicants at its non-professional offices, Glenworth Carr, manager of the USES's commercial and professional offices, last Monday explained the dual setup intended to prevent discrimination in job referrals, which he described as "fool-proof."

Refusal to get into this separate line caused William F. King, 633 K Street, Southeast to be beaten up by a guard, arrested, and fined $5 for disorderly conduct by Judge Thomas D. Quinn of the Municipal Court.

According to King he stood in one line but there were less people in this other line and he got into it. When he reached the interviewer, the interviewer told him he would have to get into the other line to have his card stamped.

Blackjacked

King said he was willing to get into the other line but wanted to know the reason, and the guard came up to him and ordered him to "Do as I say or else." When King protested, he said the guard pulled out a blackjack and hit him over the head. King denied raising his hand or using any profane language.

Explaining the dual system of filing job orders, which he himself drew up to prevent discrimination against colored applicants, Mr. Carr outlined the following steps:

1. When a request for employees is received from a federal agency, it is first written in triplicate and entered on a daily tally sheet which shows all job orders.

2. One copy of the request is then sent to the section which handles white job applicants exclusively and another copy is sent to "Section G," which handles only colored job applicants. The third copy is placed in a master file. Heads of the

white and colored sections are required to give a receipt in writing or their copies of the orders. Tuesday

3. When either section finds that the job or jobs have been filled, copies of the request are immediately taken from both sections and attached to the third copy in the master file.

4. When job seekers come in, they are referred to the white or colored section on the basis of race or color. The commerical and professional offices do not maintain lines.

Violates Order

According to informed sources, the referral of all colored job applicants or the referral of all white job applicants to federal agencies, as a result of the dual setup in the commercial and professional offices, is a violation of executive order 9346 which is still in effect, notwithstanding the closing of the offices of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee because of the refusal of funds by Congress for their operation.

Mr. Carr also said a memorandum had been sent to all employees calling their attention to the new procedure and warning against discrimination in job referrals.

The system, he added, is just about "fool proof" because the colored section knows of a job opening as soon as the white section and thus has equal opportunity to attempt to fill the vacancy. 5-14-46

Regarding the filling of orders for workers from private employers, Mr. Carr admitted that the procedure was a little different.

If an employer specifically states that he will only hire white workers, the agency makes every effort to convince him that colored workers can serve equally as well, but if the employer insists on his discriminatory request, the agency has no choice but to fill the order, Mr. Carr said. Tuesday.

Mr. Carr revealed that twice as many colored workers had been hired through his office during April as were hired in March. This, he said, showed that the colored workers in Section G were doing a good job in their referrals of applicants.

Hired in 'Emergency,' Clerks Being Fired Fast

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

GOP Victory in 1948 Expected to Bring Same Patronage Jobs; Change Held Vital

Sat. 11-23-46

By LOUIS LAUTIER

WASHINGTON (NNPA) —With Federal civilian employment in the country already reduced by more than 25 per cent since V-J Day, additional cuts are expected under the Republican regime, with the colored workers continuing to be the hardest hit.

While there were 2,915,000 employed in continental United States as of July 1, 1945, there were only 2,299,000 by July 1, 1946 and they had been reduced to 2,154,000 by Oct. 1.

Morover, the annual payroll costs of the Federal Government for civilian personnel in the United States dropped by more than two billion dollars during the 12-month period beginning July, 1945 from a total of more than seven billion dollars to five billion dollars.

Most Emergency Workers

Because most of the colored workers in clerical and administrative jobs were hired during the emergency and were appointed for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, they are being ousted disproportionately in the reduction in force program.

In addition, a number of persons holding various types of jobs in emergency agencies will also lose their jobs as the functions of those agencies are wiped out or the agencies themselves are abolished.

However, some gains made during the war period will be retained. While many agencies like the War and Navy Departments, employed colored workers mostly as messengers and in custodial jobs before the war, large numbers are occupying clerical and administrative jobs in those departments.

Truman Starting Cuts

While the Truman Administration will control the executive departments for two more years at least, President Truman himself is taking the first steps toward reducing government expenditures through elimination of some functions and the reduction of payrolls

If the Republicans should win the Presidential election in 1948, colored persons, like white persons, holding patronage jobs will be displaced by Republicans, the custom of rewarding party workers long having been employed by both major parties.

Judge May Be Retained

If the Rev. Marshall Shepard, D.C. Recorder of Deeds, retains his office until 1948, and the Republicans win the Presidential election, his job will go to a Republican, as will also the other traditionally "colored" jobs.

There is a possibility that Judge Armond W. Scott of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia may retain his post because of his exceptional work on the bench, but it is believed that the Republicans will seek to displace him.

A Challenge for Republicans

President Truman appointed two men to jobs previously held by only white persons. They are a judgeship of the United States Customs Court, held by Judge Irving Mollison, and the governorship of the Virgin Islands, held by William Hastie. However, the few patronage jobs held by colored people are infinitestimal in comparison with the large number of offices requiring Senatorial confirmation which are passed out to party workers.

It will be up to the Republican party to better its own record and the record of President Truman in this respect if it wishes to fully recapure and hold the colored vote.

Schwellenbach Admits Knowing Of Practices

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga. 8-28-46 Wed.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) —Admitting he knew of the existence of race segregation and discrimination in the District of Columbia offices of the United States Employment Service, Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach last Wednesday indicated he proposes to do little or nothing toward wiping out such practices.

Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace brought to the personal attention of Mr. Schwellenback "the unfortunate segregation practices" which displaced Commerce Department workers ran into in the USES offices. These practices include Jim Crow lines for interviews and segregated application files which restrict employment opportunities of colored job applicants.

Replying to Mr. Wallace, Secretary Schwellenbach said the problem was "complicated and involved" because the practice of segregating job applicants has been followed in the local USES offices for several years. Mr. Schwellenbach, however, promised to work for a satisfactory solution.

CSC Rejects Race Woman

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON—(NNPA) — The United States Employment Service has refused to select a colored woman as a trainee in the United States Civil Service Commission's administrative interne program despite the fact that she stood highest in an agency-wide competition with 400 other employes and received the recommendation of the agency's own certifying committee. Sat. 12-28-46

Miss Marie Gurley, personnel administrator for the agency, who ordered the certifying committee to change its recommendation to a white runner-up, said she requested the change because the colored woman was a war service indefinite appointee while the white runner-up was a permanent employe.

The Civil Service Commission, which sponsors the program, said last Thursday that there are no regulations in the program prohibiting a war service employe from being selected as an interne.

"It's just an unfortunate situation," Miss Gurley declared. "No question of race influenced my decision. When the committee informed me that the girl had been selected, I suddenly remembered that she was a war service appointee and I did not feel that it was fair to the agency to send a temporary employe to such a school."

Asked to give the name of the colored woman and that of the white man selected, Mis Gurley declined.

Federal Agencies' Hiring Attacked

WASHINGTON — (NNPA)— Charges of discriminatory hiring practices by Federal agencies against minority group members flared into the open here, last Monday, when a delegation of the United Public Workers of America (CIO) aired such charges against the Federal Trade Commission.

Civil Service Hedges on Racial Question

WASHINGTON. (NNPA)— The Civil Service Commission, Monday, declined to submit a ruling on whether or not the War Department is violating any regulations in having employees indicate their race on a personal history statement filled out after employment.

Civil Service regulations forbid any mention of race of applicants seeking positions at Federal agencies, but once an agency hires an indvidual no regulation exists as to whether or not it can through its own printed forms, require him to give such information.

Appearing before the Civil Service Commission, the union defended the 110 workers of the OPA's financial reporting division, 40 of whom were to be transferred to FTC, and the rest of whom were to be terminated.

FTC Wants Whites Only

According to union officials, the FTC wants only white employees in the transfer, and has sought advice of Civil Service as to how best to go about making all-whtie selections from the division's employees, 45 of whom are colored.

Union officials insist that the transfer should be made from the 110 employees of the division and not from all of the employees of OPA. The commission has ruled, however, that the selection of the 40 employees should be made on an agency-wide basis.

Such an extension of competition for the 40 jobs, it was said, will virtually wipe out the chances of the 45 non-white employees of the division.

The Navy Oepartment has submitted a request to OPA for sentographers and specified that only white employees were wanted. The same charge has been levelled at the National Housing Agency, by the union, which has voted to send another delegation to Civil Service to protest the attempted discrimination.

FTC 'Furloughs' Ex-OPA Workers

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Act Held Attempt to Keep Staff Lilywhite

Sat. 1-4-47

By JAMES L. HICKS

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The Federal Trade Commission, on Christmas Eve, flagrantly violated Civil Service lay-off rules and issued indefinite furloughs to more than 100 employees transferred to it from the Office of Price Administration.

The FTC took this action because 45 of the transferred employees are not white and the agency's entire clerical and professional personnel is "lily-white."

The move came after FTC had sought advice from Civil Service on how to "avoid" taking OPA employees who were not white in the transfer and had been informed that there was no way of getting around including them.

Disregard President's Order

Faced with this situation, FTC issued "indefinite furloughs" to the entire group of 110 employees, including 53 veterans, although the OPA employees had been ordered transferred to the agency by President Truman.

The United Public Workers of America (CIO), which scored a clean cut victory over FTC in insisting that all employees be included in the transfer, said on Dec. 30 that it is already preparing to fight the latest move of FTC officials. 1-4-47

Representatives of the union said they felt certain that the furloughs "wouldn't stand." The furloughs are to take effect Jan. 12. A Civil Service spokesman indicated on Dec. 29, that they are "illegal."

21c 1946

Florida

Latin Seamen Jim-Crowed, Insulted Aboard Vessel

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

By RICHARD R. DIER

NEW YORK.—Charging the skipper with discrimination, and the owners with maintaining intolerable conditions aboard, Cuban and Guatemalan seamen on the SS Patdoris, a banana freighter, appealed to the National Maritime Union for aid upon arrival of the vessel in Tampa, Fla., last week.

Charging that they are the victims of jim crow, the seamen, members of the Cuban Maritime Federation, said they were forced to sleep in vermin-ridden bunks and quarters, supplied with rotten food and filthy linen, and fed but twice daily. 2-1-46

Skipper's Insult

When they presented a petition to the skipper, Rene Courmier, he allegedly tore it up and bellowed at them: "You dirty n----s can get off the ship if you don't like it here!"

The crew members said their daily food consisted of two eggs and three pounds of rice, which they had to cook themselves after working split shifts of 12 hours a day.

There were no tables to eat on, so they sat with their plates in their hands out on the hatch.

Exposed to Danger

Ever since the men signed in Cuba four months ago, they had slept on the same filthy bed linen in the chain locker, where the heat is unbearable.

The chain locker is underneath the anchor, and they were in danger of being cut in two if the anchor was dropped while they were asleep. 2-1-46

The vessel, a 350-ton freighter hauling bananas between Guatemala and Tampa, is owned by the Southeastern Terminal and Steamship Co. at Miami, and is manned by French-Canadian officers.

The company is owned by Thomas Frazier of Canada and the ship is operated for Crenshaw Brothers, fruit importers of Tampa.

Sues Sheriff $45,000 For Mass Arrests

New York, New York
Amsterdam News

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. —(WDL)—The mass false arrests of Negroes here in 1944 under Sheriff Walter R. Clark's work-or-fight edict may cost $45,000 to Deputies Robert L. Clark and A. D. Marshall and to J. Dewey Hawkins, wealthy farmer.

This sum in damages is sought in a suit against these three individuals by nine of the dozens of Negroes who were arrested on vagrancy charges and fined from $20 to $35 without trial. The suit was filed in Miami Federal Court by Judge Kenneth M. Oka, of Miami Beach. The defendants were ordered to file answers to the suit by February 27.

Some of the Negroes were arrested on Hawkins' complaint after they refused jobs picking beans on his farm. They pointed out that they could not earn enough picking beans in a field which had been picked twice before. Others arrested were regularly employed union longshoremen, all of whom possessed means of support. Sat 2-23-46

Upon affidavits submitted by the Workers' Defense League to the Department of Justice, a Federal grand jury held hearings about a year ago but failed to render any indictments. Condemning the grand jury's action, Rev. Aron S. Gilmartin, National WDL Chairman, said at the time: "In failing to indict in these cases, an opportunity has been lost to bring a larger measure of justice and security to all the people of Florida."

Kansas Decision Exposes Race Prejudice In Labor Unions

Coll — Kansas City, Mo.

The law has vindicated itself. A decision of the Supreme Court of Kansas requires the railway car repairers brotherhood to represent Negro car workers too. This is a tremendous step toward the elimination of the color line in labor.

From the day the law put collective bargaining in the hands of the workers, we have expected this development. We expected it because we have faith that democracy will be achieved and because we know that arrogant selfishness begets its own correction.

White unions make sense under Nazi rule, but not here where we formed a government to "secure the blessings of liberty." Auxiliary unions, the device by which Negroes are taxed to support unionism but not served by it, are also Nazi. This discrimination exists because white American workers, brought over from the capitalistic past, fear that there is not work for all. With the increase of education, they know—or will learn—that cooperation, not competition, is the road to full employment and a decent wage.

We expected court denunciation of discrimination also because we have faith in the justice of our white neighbors. Listen to any group of Negroes discuss general conditions, Negroes who have education, property and security. To hear them, all they meet with is insult and injury—all debits and no credits.

The liberty they have to speak as they do is the glory of our nation. They do not express satisfaction even with that. Yet, the worst grumbler among us admits that there is progress. We have something and we will get more, all because there is more justice toward us among whites than there is prejudice.

Through "full crew" legislation, the brotherhoods have tried for decades to drive Negroes out of train service. Negro firemen at work on moving trains have been shot. It is a grisly page that tells what has been done. We do not expect the union leaders, the men behind this sinister un-American practice to let this Kansas decision go unchallenged.

But this we do expect: Now that the court has called a spade a spade and made clear that the urge behind what the Brotherhoods do is really race prejudice, the rank and file of American workers will refuse to follow leaders like Whitney of the Railway Trainmen's union who made an anti-Negro demand one of the "working conditions" he demanded on threat to tie up rail transportation. God is in His heaven and all is well with the world.

Friday 6-14-46

Moore Turns Spotlight On White Unions' Dual Policy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-24-46

CHICAGO—Jim Crow is the off key player in the jazz bands and symphony orchestras in the United States today, says band leader Phil Moore in an article "Jim Crow On the Band Stand" in the September issue of Negro Digest.

"There are two musicians' unions in practically every city in the country," explains one-time MGM arranger Moore. "One of these locals is white and one is colored. These two locals get along swell as long as they operate in their own zones.

"But the zones are set up by the white locals," Moore declares.

An employer who has an exclusive contract with the white local must clear a colored musician through the white local. Moore charges that this practise has caused the present deplorable dearth of good paying jobs for our musicians. The writer declares:

"Out of more than 20,000 non-white musicians in the nation, not one is working with a symphony orchestra; only two work with a movie company, and only two class "A" night clubs will hire non-white bands."

Ban On Negro Mechanics Hit

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Ask U.S. Housing Agency To Act

Sat. 6-15-46

NEW YORK—Action to insure the use of Negro labor in the emergency housing program recently authorized by Congress was urged by the National Urban League in an appeal this week to Emanuel Lerner, labor branch director of the National Housing Agency.

Unless definite action is taken by the labor expediter to protect the job rights of Negro veterans and other building trades workers, discriminatory hiring and union practices will eliminate many competent men, the league pointed out.

Lily-white unions listed in the league statement, sent to Lerner in the form of a report, included the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the United Association of Journeymen, Plumbers and Steamfitters, both affiliated with A. F. of L.

Both these groups bar Negroes or limit the number employed

To give the labor branch director a partial picture of Negro employment in the building trades field, the Urban League submitted summarized reports from 21 league affiliates.

Only nine of the 21 cities, reported a fairly consistent policy of Negro integration in trade unions—Akron, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Newark, Philadelphia and Portland, Ore.

Through an "off-the-record agreement" with the electricians and plumbers unions, Negroes are permitted to work freely for colored clientele in the Negro areas, the Cleveland Urban League reported.

From New Orleans, the local league reported "no Negro plumbers or electricians, working at the trade. The city does not license Negroes for these occupations."

The St. Louis League, which has been fighting for the past 12 years to have Negroes included as members of the building trades unions, said discrimination against colored mechanics is a serious problem in that city.

Washington, D. C., presented a particularly dismal picture. "Carpenters joined union when Negro contractor had job but transferred membership to segregated local in Baltimore because they could get no work in Washington. There are two licensed plumbers," the local league reported, "and no licensed electricians in the city."

Branches Ignore Wyatt Order To Hire Negroes

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-12-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Housing Expediter Wilson W. Wyatt's all-out program to employ Negro workers at staff level on the $3,000,000,000 national housing project is being effectively sabotaged by his personal chiefs across the country, it was learned last week.

Two directives from Wyatt to his personnel officers, the second sent last month, have been virtually ignored, and only 144 of the 1,751 employees from Maine to the Pacific are Negroes. Eighty percent of these are in Wyatt's own office.

Survey Results

Meanwhile a survey of present employment practices shows that in five eastern states, of 45 employees, none are Negroes; in the New York-New Jersey area of five states, four of 137 are Negroes, and in the middlewest, only two of 92 workers in ten states are colored.

Except for regional race relations advisers in the branch offices none of the 20 Negroes employed are working at staff levels.

These race relations advisers were employed under the old Federal Housing Administration set-up, and are therefore not evidence of district officers' desire to comply with direct orders from the NHA's top man.

Wyatt also called early this summer for weekly reports from his branch personnel on the number of workers from minority groups who had been employed during the preceding seven days.

Wyatt Action

When none were employed, and no reports were made, Wyatt showed that his May 29 assurances that Negroes would be employed were not empty promises.

The Housing Expediter wrote to the heads of Howard University, Tuskegee Institute, the National Urban League, and NAACP asking them to recommend qualified personnel for available jobs.

When even this was ineffective in raising the one per cent minority employment rate in regional offices to anything like the eleven percent employed at national headquarters, Wyatt issued his second order demanding that a more vigorous search be made for minority personnel, and that they be immediately employed at staff levels.

U.S. Apprentice Bias Gets Airing

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Ansel R. Clearly, assistant director of the U.S. Apprentice Services, said last Thursday that the exclusion of colored people from serving as apprentices in certain trades is not the concern of the Labor Department.

Replying to a direct question as to whether or not the government could do anyhing about such racial discrimination by both management and labor, Mr. Clearly quoted the law under which the service agency was organized.

Can't Dictate Placement

The law states that the Secretary of Labor "will bring together employers and labor for the formulation and promotion of standards of apprenticeships, and cooperate with State agencies engaged in the formulation and promotion of standards of apprenticeships.

"We furnish these services to both white and colored employers and employees," Mr. Clearly said. "We are not authorized by law to tell anyone whom they must accept as apprentices."

Sat. 7-6-46

Negroes and Unions

Fri. 10-18-46 New York, N.Y.

To the Editor:

Much is said, and justly so, about the discrimination against Negroes in the renting and selling of real estate. Do many of these champions of the Negroes ever complain about the exclusion of Negroes from many labor unions? If not, why not? Is job discrimination not as bad, if not worse, than housing discrimination?

Do these "Friends of the Negroes" lack sincerity, impartiality or guts in dealing with the Negroes' most important problem—equality in employment? And why are the GIs excluded from labor unions?

New York. W. RAWK

Good unions don't discriminate. Those which do should be taken to task by their members.—ED.

Job Discrimination

To the Editor:

Have you noticed all the ads in the job columns calling for Gentile—calling for White—ONLY?

Is this sort of thing a new disease or has it always been there but not printed? Or have I just noticed it?

Another point that rubs me the wrong way is the applictions one is handed. Where was your mother born? How many years has she lived here? etc.

I want the job—not my mother. I speak good English and I can spell correctly. Why must they know whether my mother is a Russian, an Irish Catholic or a Turk? In order to do some filing or some simple clerical work all these facts must be filled in and my name must be Jones.

Are we headed for better understanding among nations when we haven't it among ourselves? America is full of all sorts of nationals—and all of them think they are as good as the next fellow. Why can't they be allowed to work together?

We did it during the war. We can do it in peacetime. What about it?

Philadelphia SHIRLEY MOKIEN

PM frequently has exposed such undemocratic practices—but some publications never learn. In New York State, persons discriminated against can find recourse under New law.—ED.

Kansas Decision Exposes Race Prejudice In Labor Unions

Call - Kansas City, Mo.

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Lily-white unions listed in the league statement, sent to Lerner in the form of a report, included the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the United Association of Journeymen, Plumbers and Steamfitters, both affiliated with A. F. of L.

Both these groups bar Negroes or limit the number employed

To give the labor branch director a partial picture of Negro employment in the building trades field, the Urban League submitted summarized reports from 21 league affiliates.

Only nine of the 21 cities, reported a fairly consistent policy of Negro integration in trade unions—Akron, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Newark, Philadelphia and Portland, Ore.

Through an "off-the-record agreement" with the electricians and plumbers unions, Negroes are permitted to work freely for colored clientele in the Negro areas, the Cleveland Urban League reported.

From New Orleans, the local league reported "no Negro plumbers or electricians, working at the trade. The city does not license Negroes for these occupations."

The St. Louis League, which has been fighting for the past 12 years to have Negroes included as members of the building trades unions, said discrimination against colored mechanics is a serious problem in that city.

Washington, D. C., presented a particularly dismal picture. "Carpenters joined union when Negro contractor had job but transferred membership to segregated local in Baltimore because they could get no work in Washington. There are two licensed plumbers," the local league reported, "and no licensed electricians in the city."

Branches Ignore Wyatt Order To Hire Negroes

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 10-12-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Housing Expediter Wilson W. Wyatt's all-out program to employ Negro workers at staff level on the $3,000,000,000 national housing project is being effectively sabotaged by his personal chiefs across the country, it was learned last week.

Two directives from Wyatt to his personnel officers, the second sent last month, have been virtually ignored, and only 144 of the 1,751 employees from Maine to the Pacific are Negroes. Eighty percent of these are in Wyatt's own office.

Survey Results

Meanwhile a survey of present employment practices shows that in five eastern states, of 45 employees, none are Negroes; in the New York-New Jersey area of five states, four of 137 are Negroes, and in the middlewest, only two of 92 workers in ten states are colored.

Except for regional race relations advisers in the branch offices none of the 20 Negroes employed are working at staff levels.

These race relations advisers were employed under the old Federal Housing Administration setup, and are therefore not evidence of district officers' desire to comply with direct orders from the NHA's top man.

Wyatt also called early this summer for weekly reports from his branch personnel on the number of workers from minority groups who had been employed during the preceding seven days.

Wyatt Action

When none were employed, and no reports were made, Wyatt showed that his May 29 assurances that Negroes would be employed were not empty promises.

The Housing Expediter wrote to the heads of Howard University, Tuskegee Institute, the National Urban League, and NAACP asking them to recommend qualified personnel for available jobs.

When even this was ineffective in raising the one per cent minority employment rate in regional offices to anything like the eleven percent employed at national headquarters, Wyatt issued his second order demanding that a more vigorous search be made for minority personnel, and that they be immediately employed at staff levels.

U.S. Apprentice Bias Gets Airing

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Ansel R. Clearly, assistant director of the U.S. Apprentice Services, said last Thursday that the exclusion of colored people from serving as apprentices in certain trades is not the concern of the Labor Department.

Replying to a direct question as to whether or not the government could do anyhing about such racial discrimination by both management and labor, Mr. Clearly quoted the law under which the service agency was organized.

Can't Dictate Placement

The law states that the Secretary of Labor "will bring together employers and labor for the formulation and promotion of standards of apprenticeships, and cooperate with State agencies engaged in the formulation and promotion of standards of apprenticeships.

Sat. 7-6-46

"We furnish these services to both white and colored employers and employees," Mr. Clearly said. "We are not authorized by law to tell anyone whom they must accept as apprentices."

PM frequently has exposed such undemocratic practices—but some against can find recourse under publications never learn. In New York State, persons discriminated law.—Ed.

Another point that rubs me the wrong way is the applictions one is handed. Where was your mother born? How many years has she lived here? etc.

I want the job—not my mother.

I speak good English and I can spell correctly. Why must they know whether my mother is a Russian, an Irish Catholic or a Turk? In order to do some fling or some simple clerical work all these facts must be filled in and my name must be Jones.

Are we headed for better understanding among nations when we haven't it among ourselves? America is full of all sorts of nationals—and all of them think they are as good as the next fellow. Why can't they be allowed to work together?

We did it during the war. We can do it in peacetime.

What about it?

Philadelphia SHIRLEY MOKIEN

Job Discrimination

The Afro-American

10-19-46

To the Editor:

Have you noticed all the ads in the job columns calling for Gentiles—ONLY?

Is this sort of thing a new discrimination? If not, why not? Is it by their members.—Ed.

Good unions don't discriminate. Those which do should be taken to task by their members.—Ed.

Negroes and Unions

To the Editor:

Much is said, and justly so, about the discrimination against Negroes in the renting and selling of real estate.

Friends of the Negroes ever complain about the exclusion of Negroes from many labor unions? If not, why not? Is job discrimination not as bad, if not worse, than housing discrimination?

Do these "Friends of the Negroes" lack sincerity, impartiality or guts in dealing with the Negroes most important problem—equality in employment? And why are the GIs excluded from labor unions?

W. Rawx

New York, N.Y.

Do many of these champions of it?

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

The Times-Dispatch

NEW YORK—Resuming his role of Johnny Appleseed, this time as a man without a party save that the Communists alone find him almost good enough for them, Henry Wallace told a gathering of Negroes in Los Angeles that "big manufacturers" oppose F.E.P.C. and "strictly from dollar motives, the most ignoble motive of all."

F.E.P.C. is a device, disguised as a proposal to forbid racial discrimination in employment, whereby an employer might be forced to hire and retain a lazy, incompetent, dishonest and generally pestiferous Negro, because he was a Negro, and in spite of that individual's faults, to the exclusion of a competent and virtuous white worker.

On the precedents established under the Wagner Act, all such faults might be acknowledged and the employer still would be forbidden to reject or fire this individual who would then have, in theory, life tenure quaranteed merely because he was a Negro. This would be racial discrimination in favor of the Negro and against the white person.

The Labor Relations Board held, and the Federal courts upheld the board, that under the Wagner Act an employee could not be dismissed for acknowledged faults if the board itself chose to believe that the prime reason for dismissal was the employee's unionism. The board could go into the employer's mind, reject valid reasons which normally are sufficient to justify discharge of a worthless and troublesome employee, and determine that the employer secretly desired to punish the subject for being a union man or for exhorting the rest to form a union. In actual experience in many cases, an employee who was on the point of being fired for good reason had only to become an active nuisance as a union agitator to protect himself. Richmond, Va.

THE prejudice of white against black, and vice versa, certainly no localized and artificial plague of General Motors, Ford or any other industrial empire, is no less a nuisance to those soulless corporations than it is the black man's woe. It was here long before Studebaker wrought his first buggy wheel and it is the sin, not of employers, as such, whether great or small, but of Mr. Wallace's own protege, "the common man." Sat. 11-2-46

It is he, the common man, and the common black man as well as the faceless anonymity of the pink and sallow breeds, who keeps a brick behind the clock and provocations on the tip of his tongue and, if Mr. Wallace had the virtue of sincerity, he might do some good and leave a footprint in the sands by telling the muckers so to their faces on his travels.

The Detroit riots and other occasional terrors always are attributed to some elusive dark force, suggested by Communist cartoonists with the pot-bellied figure under a plug hat or a cloud of swastikas. Actually they are always touched off by angry ignoranti, the man in the street, the malevolent brute below the social and spiritual plane of the American Spelvins, who mobbed the Spelvins, dumped their cars at the factory gates and vandalized their homes in the organizing days of the C.I.O.

These are distinctly Henry Wallace's own people, the element who make it necessary to maintain armed police in every American village, and it is they who tell the "big manufacturers" not to put Negroes alongside them at work, to segregate them in separate washrooms and Jim-Crow them in the cafeterias and neighborhoods.

TO A manufacturer in a big way of business, a hand is a hand, without distinction except as to efficiency. He deals in thousands and he deals, not with the individuals but with the great padrones of the C.I.O. unions who send him whom they will, not whom he might want. Actually, the employers like it so, or would like it if the unions were honest and efficient in their own work, for then the employers would be relieved of the problems of friction that should be settled in the halls and councils of the unions. They don't want to bother with personnel relations and would gladly deal with the help as they do with machinery and, to the extent that conditions permit them to, they do. This may be horridly practical and impersonal, but Henry Wallace was one of those who would have it so in upholding Wagner's Law and the bloodless unionism whereby the employer is forbidden to get personal with the people and the union jealously takes responsibility for their hiring and regards their social and political life as exclusive union business.

If Negroes were perceptibly superior or more desirable in any way, the "big manufacturer" would be glad to discriminate in favor of Negroes and against white men, for all he wants is results for his money. If he shows any preference at all, if he indicates that a lily-white personnel is preferable to a checker-board staff, that is because he has the intelligence to realize that mixing causes irritation, which in turn, causes inefficiency. But the fault here is not his, but the common man's again. And Wallace, his political sponsor and guardian, would be just the man to tell him so, if he were man enough.

Ga., Ark. Oppose Fair Hiring Policy

The Afro-American

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Representatives of Georgia and Arkansas at the 13th National Conference on Labor Legislation, Dec. 2-4, went on record last Wednesday as being opposed to hiring qualified colored persons in State employment offices and to nondiscrimination in job referrals.

Ben Huiet, Georgia Labor Commissioner, and M. E. Goss, Arkansas Labor Commissioner, voted against the proposals. Other State commissioners and union leaders supported a committee suggestion that job referral standards of the United States Employment Service, under State operation, disregard "sex, creed or color." Baltimore, Md.

Adopts Equal Referral Plan

The conference adopted a committee report which recommended "Equal referral opportunities on the basis of occupational qualifications regardless of sex, creed or color," and the proposal that "where there is a large minority group such as colored persons in a State, the State Employment Service employ qualified colored personnel. Sat. 12-14-46

Numerous complaints reaching the Veterans Administration here from Southern States say that unemployed colored veterans are being denied unemployment compensation when they refuse menial jobs and hold out for "suitable work."

In defining suitable work the Social Security Board has recommended that agencies consider the claimant's prior earnings, training, experience, length of unemployment and his prospects for obtaining work in his customary occupation.

Although Goss and Huiet opposed committee adoption of such a recommendation, it was adopted by the conference.

School Equality Fight Grows; Four States Open Legal Battle

Chicago Defender
Chicago Sat.

Five legal actions were instituted in four states last week in the rapidly growing fight for equalization of school facilities and teachers' salaries. Sat 5-21-49

1. In East Texas, ranked by Negroes alongside Mississippi, Alabama and Hades, in terms of the most undesirable and difficult places for the "colored brother" to reside, something of a revolution was experienced when Negro citizens of Texarkana and Winnsboro, two small cities deep in the heart of the area, slapped their school boards into court on the same day, charging gross discrimination and "praying" the court to order defendants to put an immediate stop to "discrimination against Negro children because of their race and color." Sat 5-21-49

2. In Jackson, Miss., an equal-salary case involving a school teacher, Mrs. Gladys Noel Bates, was argued in court.

3. In Durham, N. C., attorneys, representing approximately 30 Negro citizens, notified the Board of Education that they will file action in federal court in an effort to equalize the school systems. Sat. 5-21-49

4. In Richmond, Va., an attorney for plaintiffs in the Gloucester school discrimination case revealed that he was readying 10 suits for the equalization of school facilities in several Virginia counties.

The East Texas suits were filed Wednesday by Atty. U. Simpson Tate, NAACP regional special counsel, in the home base court of Federal Judge Randolph Bryant at Sherman.

In their complaint, signed by Atty. W. J. Durham of Dallas and Tate, Texarkana citizens alleged that their school board has created for whites of the community a veritable educational center covering an area of several city blocks, including a junior high school, senior high school, and junior college with all accessories.

In sharp contrast, state the plaintiffs, "the Dunbar High School designated exclusively for Negroes is situated on the bank of and within 100 feet from the swamp Puddle Creek, which is substantially an open sewer and which in the past has overflowed and flooded the grounds and basement of Dunbar school."

Foe To Court

Negro leaders expressed satisfaction that the Texarkana superintendent of schools, Dr. H. W. Stilwell, is being brought into court. They state that for many years Stilwell has been the worst enemy of education for Negroes in East Texas. He is regarded as the chief stumbling block in this field, and many feel that if he is curbed his reactionary, lesser-light colleagues in other counties will automatically mend their ways in large degree. Sat. 5-21-49

The Winnsboro case, similar in fundamental respects, is distinguished by the fact that chief counsel for the plaintiffs will be Atty. Otto Mullinax, a member of a young, white lawyers' firm which has distinguished itself by courageously championing the cause of the Negro.

Whether Mrs. Bates wins her case or not—she has since quit the public school system of Jackson—the very fact that the case is being argued in court in the "stamping grounds" of the late Theodore Bilbo and Gov. Fielding H. Wright proves that there are some grounds for the belief that "things are getting better."

Years of Jim Crow

The Durham move is the result of years of unequal educational facilities, the same as elsewhere in the South. Although the exact date of the suit has not been revealed, it is known that the attorneys will make a contrast of facilities for whites with those of Negroes as in the Texas case.

Four school officials in Gloucester were fined on May 4 for "contempt of court" in failing to provide equal facilities for Negroes. There is an outside chance that some of the 10 contemplated suits will be unnecessary. It is felt that some of the counties may "learn" from the Gloucester case. A contempt case in King George county, for instance, was suspended until September when the eforts at equalization will be measured.

The county has made known plans to build a $150,000 Negro high school. Sat. 5-21-49

The attorney, Martin A. Martin, believes that more can be accomplished out of court than in it. But, if school boards continue their refusal to discuss the matter, as some have, the suits will be filed.

Federal Agencies Charged With Bias Against Negro Vets

By Albert Deutsch:

C. M. New York, N.Y.

The United States Employment Service (USES), the Veterans Administration and other Federal, state and local governmental agencies, in actively abetting discriminatory practices against war veterans belonging to Negro and other minority groups, are helping deprive many thousands of vets of the benefits and privileges supposedly guaranteed them by the GI Bill of Rights. On-the-spot surveys of scores of American cities on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line reveal mounting instances of Jim Crow barriers officially raised against Negro vets trying to obtain jobs, homes, schooling, and business loans.

Mon 4-8-46

The breakdown of the Fair Employment Practices Committee already has had a disastrous effect on the job prospects of Negro vets, according to a survey just completed by the American Council on Race Relations. Employers who had hired Negro civilians in wartime, in accordance with FEPC regulations, are now turning away many Negro veterans who apply for jobs.

Here are some highlights from the Council's survey, which was conducted by an ex-GI, Vincent Malveaux, veteran of a racially mixed combat unit:

¶ In most instances, USES offices follow the local community pattern regarding segregation and discrimination. As a result, Negroes, Americans of Japanese descent and other minority veterans are usually referred only to menial job opportunities despite their qualifications and Army-acquired skills. In some cities, the USES, a Federal agency, actually follows a worse discriminatory policy than the local agencies.

In Houston, Tex., for instance, the local Veterans Information Center serves both whites and Negroes indiscriminately. The USES office there, in marked contrast, segregates white and Negro vet applicants. The "white" office is large and well-ventilated. Chairs are provided for white veterans and civilians alike. The colored vets must enter the building by a side door, go into a small office used mainly as a storeroom, and stand while waiting for their turn.

¶ While USES offices are successfully finding jobs utilizing the Army-acquired skills of white vets, applicants belonging to Negro and other minority groups are "met with cold politeness, ridicule or general hostility by USES officials in cities like San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston, Nashville and Atlanta."

¶ The Veterans Information Center in Atlanta, Ga., had only one colored worker to handle all Negro vets applying there. This woman, a colored social worker, quit when the local director told her to do the janitorial work in the absence of the office janitor.

¶ Neither New York, Chicago nor Washington had a Negro counsellor on the veterans' center staff at the time the survey was made. In many centers, job counsellors don't even bother to counsel Negro vets except to advise them to apply for jobless compensation.

¶ The Nashville, Tenn., Veterans Information Center is located in the Cotton State Bldg., strictly "for whites only." Negro vets never get beyond the information window. The "white" USES is conveniently located right across the hall, but the "colored" USES office is five blocks away.

¶ An interviewer in the USES office at St. Paul, Minn., admitted that, in many cases, the USES refused to send qualified jobless Negro vets to firms with vacancies.

¶ The policy of the USES office in St. Louis is to ask Negro vets who apply for jobs what they did before entering service. Despite skills they may have acquired in the Army, these vets are put right back into menial job classifications without getting a chance for better jobs.

Mon 4-8-46

¶ Willie May, a colored veteran, served in the Army Signal Corps for 33 months, 20 of them overseas stringing telephone lines. When he applied for the same work at the USES office in Birmingham, he was told that kind of work wasn't available. Yet, white vets with Signal Corps experience are getting jobs with the Birmingham Power Company; Willie May is working as a Pullman porter.

¶ Richard Setsuda, a Japanese-American veteran of Seattle, who was a business man before he joined up, was offered only menial jobs by the Seattle USES. Many other Niesi (Americans of Japanese ancestry) veterans applying at the Seattle USES office say they were told: "You boys might as well apply for unemployment compensation; there are no jobs for you." They wonder what will happen when the jobless compensation runs out.

¶ Negro and Mexican-American vets applying for jobs at the San Antonio, Tex., office of the USES, have been advised to seek jobless compensation instead of jobs so often that one clerk remarked: "The placement department seems to do nothing but send these men over to file unemployment compensation claims."

That's how job discrimination hits its direct victims, but makes a deep dent in the taxpayer's pocketbook.

¶ In many cities, Negroes are barred from on-the-job and apprenticeship training opportunities to which they are supposedly entitled under the GI Bill of Rights. Of 56 courses listed in a Tennessee State Education Dept. pamphlet listing veterans' training facilities, only 13 are available to Negro vets. Of 246 approved apprenticeship training programs under the GI Bill of Rights, only six are available to Negro vets, namely, porter, tire capper, truck-helper, copy boy, plumbing and lubricating man.

¶ Instances are cited in Chicago and many other towns where employers refuse to hire qualified Negro vets for skilled jobs.

¶ While veterans of all races and creeds are hard hit by the acute housing shortage, those of minority groups suffer an added disability. In Los Angeles, Nisei vets wishing to get GI Bill home loans were immediately discouraged by learning that, because of restrictive covenants and other discriminatory practices, they were limited to a choice of inferior homes in slum areas that would never be approved by bank or VA appraisers. In many cities, North and South, Negro vets and their families not only find it impossible to get decent housing, but have little or no opportunity to share in emergency veterans' housing phojects.

Mon 4-8-46

Julius A. Thomas of the National Urban League, who made a survey of Negro veterans' job opportunities in 50 cities, charges wholesale discrimination in employing practices on the part of both the Veterans Administration and the USES. In Tennessee and Louisiana, he found only four Negroes employed by the VA in each state, although Negroes made up 35 per cent of all Army inductees in Tennessee and 38 per cent in Louisiana. The same disparity in Negro veteran employment by the VA exists in all other Southern states, Thomas charges.

"The exclusion of Negroes from this field of employment," Thomas says in his Urban League report, "constitutes in itself a serious problem of discrimination in view of the veterans' preferences established by the GI Bill of Rights."

Other findings in the Thomas report include:

¶ No Negroes are employed as contact representatives by the Veterans Employment Service in the Southern states, and very few were so employed in other sections of the country.

¶ Job discrimination in the Southern offices of USES eliminated Negroes entirely, although 40 to 50 per cent of all persons served in most of them are Negroes.

The National Urban League report recommends that the Veterans Administration immediately launch an inquiry into job and training discrimination against Negro and other minority-group vets in regional, state, and local offices, and that a similar investigation be made of USES agencies. Both the Urban League and the American Council on Race Relations reports urge adding more minority-group members to veteran counselling staffs.

A lot of the blame for the raw deal handed out to Negro and other minority-group veterans seems to spring from top administrative weakness or indifference in Washington. In lieu of the FEPC, it would appear that some central governmental agency or group should be set up to safeguard the ex-serviceman, at least, from discrimination at the hands of un-American ingrates. In too many cases, the minority-group vet is in the position of Tantalus, with promised rewards for his war service held just beyond his reach.

USES Jim Crow Agreement With Congress Rumored

Baltimore, Md.

afro-American

Segregation Policy Accepted to Get Needed Appropriation, Official Hints

4-27-46 Sat.

WASHINGTON (NNPA).—Broad hints of a deal whereby the U.S. Employment Service adopted a policy of segregation in the District of Columbia were made Thursday by Henry E. Treido, white, whose resignation as chief of programs and methods of the Fourth USES Region becomes effective Apr. 30.

If Treida is to be believed, the deal was made with the House Appropriations Committee in 1943 and involved colored persons. The more acceptable version is that if a deal was made, it was between members of the House appropriations subcommittee which handled USES appropriations and USES officials.

Treide contends that racial segregation in the District of Columbia Employment center exists by virtue of a Congressional mandate and has the approval of colored persons who were consulted.

Truman Order Nullified

President Truman's executive order banning race discrimination in government agencies is in conflict with the congressional mandate and, in his opinion, the Congressional mandate should govern.

No record of any agreement involving colored persons and members of the House appropriations committee could be found in any hearings pertaining to any USES appropriation bill, and there is no provision of law requiring such segregation.

An official in the Labor Department said Treide erred in stating that any such agreement could be found in the hearings on any USES appropriation bill, but that there was little doubt in his mind that such an agreement had been made "off-the-record" to appease reactionary members of the House appropriations committee.

Applicant Draws Fine

Segregation in the District of Columbia Employment Center reached its climax recently when a colored job applicant and a colored guard had an altercation over the job applicant's refusal to get into a jim crow line. The job applicant was arrested and was later fined $5 for disorderly conduct by Judge Thomas D. Quinn of the Municipal Court.

The U.S. Civil Service Commission recently found as the result of an official investigation that the local USES office was maintaining separate files of white and colored workers and segregating job applicants according to race and ordered the agency to cease such pracices. A check last Friday revealed that the segregation pattern was still being followed.

Upon visiting the agency last Friday without revealing his identity as a reporter, a NNPA representative was directed by the receptionist to section "G" which is a section of colored interviewers to which all colored applicants must apply for white collar jobs.

Refuses Answer

After visiting section "G" and identifying himself as a reporter, the NNPA representative returned to the white receptionist and inquired whether she had been given orders to refer all colored applicants to section G.

The receptionist refused to answer the query and called the head of the veterans' section.

The head of the veterans' section said that although all colored applicants were referred to section G, it was not a case of segregation or discrimination because both colored and white sections received the same job orders. He added that it was generally agreed that both colored and white applicants were more at ease when interviewed by members of their own race.

Applicants Qualified

This was not done through any special effort on the part of the agency to help colored people, he said, but was the result of the high calibre of colored applicants applying for the positions.

He added that he felt a recent press was unjustified.

Caught in the cross-fire between the CIO, who charges of segrega- only 16 per cent of the persons USES office applying to the agency for white Civil Serv- collar jobs were colored, a recent d D. Het- survey showed that 38 per cent background of the available jobs had been between the colored job applicant poor circles given to colored persons. be as a liberal. and the colored guard, Hetzel re- and is considered in labor ci

vealed, many delegations from minority groups had visited his office protesting the incident and demanding he dismiss the guard.

Since the guard is employed by the Public Buildings Administration, he added, it was impossible for him to fire him or take any disciplinary action against him other than to request that he be removed from the building.

Vet Training 'Inadequate Urban League Reveals

NEW YORK—The plight of Negro veterans in 50 U. S. cities is "most disheartening," the National Urban League reported on last Monday after a survey of cities throughout the country.

The blame for the bad state of affairs was placed directly on the Veterans Administration and the United States Employment Service by Julius A. Thomas, director of industrial relations for the League.

"The major problems confronting Negro veterans in the majority of cities studied have to do with employment, training and counseling," according to the report.

"Negro Jobs" Offered

"The movement of Negroes into peacetime employment lags far behind the movement of white veterans."

"Traditional Negro jobs" only are being offered by the USES veterans' employment service, and there is no "well organized effort to secure on-the-job training or apprenticeship training for Negro veterans in any city," the League asserted.

Northern cities have done little to accept colored veterans in the building trades. In St. Louis they are excluded altogether, it was disclosed.

Inadequate Training

Brightest spot in the building trades picture was in Memphis, where 40 men apprenticed to a colored carpenter's union.

"In all but two cities having segregated school systems," the League declared, "the training for Negroes was entirely inadequate, the exceptions being Baltimore and Washington.

"In St. Louis, Negro veterans attend classes with high school boys, while in Richmond no training of any type is being given. All separate schools are extremely weak in the training most frequently desired by the veterans."

Large Waiting Lists

Ten colored colleges offering vocational and technical education showed a total enrollment of 10,121, of whom 1,763 were veterans. Tuskegee Institute reported that more than one-fourth of the enrollment of 1,613 were veterans. All the schools had large waiting lists.

The league held that the Veterans Administration and the USES employed too few colored persons.

"In the Southern cities," it said, "no Negroes were found on the staff of the Veterans Administration except in the Negro colleges which have been designated as rehabilitation and counseling centers."

Although 35 per cent of all men entering the service from Tennessee were colored, only four in the entire state were employed by the Veterans Administration, the league charged, while in Louisiana, of 600 persons in the staff of the administration, only four were colored, although induction of colored men from Louisiana were 38 per cent of the total. The league asserted that conditions in the USES ranged from "poor to deplorable," since in Tennessee and Louisiana not a single colored person could be found in the employ of that agency.

The league commented that while the problem of loans to all veterans had not been handled satisfactorily, "the general feeling in most of the cities studied indicates that loans to Negro veterans are almost out of the question," since in no city were investigators able to find a veteran who had received a loan for purchase of a home.

The league declared that competent colored persons added to the administrative staffs of the Veterans Affairs Office, the Veterans Administration and the veterans employment division of the USES would aid in formulating policies for colored veterans.

NAACP Launches Fight Against Jim Crow In Capital

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — A nation-wide NAACP fight against the segregation and discrimination of Negroes seeking work in the local United States Employment service office was launched last week by a telegram to members of the house apropriations committee.

"The NAACP is deeply disturbed by that agency's (USES) racial policies particularly those in practice at its employment office in the District of Columbia," the telegram read. "For a number of years the district offices have been operated on a jim crow basis, that is to say, Negro citizens are required to use separate waiting rooms, to enter separate lines for purposes of being interviewed by the staff, such interviewers being assigned solely on basis of race."

The Washington Daily News reported on April 3 that a colored man was assaulted and arrested by a building guard simply for standing in the line for "white persons," the NAACP telegram said.

National NAACP headquarters in New York urged all NAACP branches through out the nation to contact congressional representatives on the subject of breaking jim crow against Negro workers in the local USES employment office. On Sept. 2, 1944, Paul V. McNutt, then chairman of the War Manpower commission, charged the appropriations committee instructed the USES to operate its local employment office on a jim crow basis.

Charge AFL Denies Negroes Housing Jobs

The National Urban League yesterday charged that general practices of AFL building trades unions bar Negroes from membership and jobs.

The League declared the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the United Association of Journeymen, Plumbers, and Steamfitters were the "building trades union which managed either to exclude Negro workers or limit their number in these fields."

In a survey covering leading cities, Julius A. Thomas, the League's industrial relations director, urged measures to insure "proper use of Negro labor as mechanics in the emergency housing program." The demand was made of Emanuel Lerner, labor branch director of the National Housing Agency.

The report points out that during the war majority of Negroes were used in engineering units, and were trained as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, and sheet metal workers.

"These Negroes should qualify for employment in the housing construction program with much less additional training than is required in the regular apprentice program," the eLague asserted.

The report lists the following data on Negro memberships:

Bricklayers Local No. 34—1,100 members; 120 Negroes.

Painters Brotherhood, 3,892—no Negroes.

Painters District 39—number of Negroes not known. The Progressive Club, organization of Negro painters affiliated with District No. 9, has 250 members.

Plasters Local No. 6—two members.

Carpenters Local No. 257—1,300 members; 30 Negroes.

Carpenters Local No. 135—400 members; 1 Negro.

Carpenters Local No. 385—600 members; 12 Negroes.

Carpenters Local No. 608—800 members; 14 Negroes.

Carpenters Local No. 1888—200 members; all Negroes.

The electricians' union has six Negroes among the 30,000 in Local No. 3.

There are possibly six licensed Negro plumbers in the entire city.

Jim Crow Vets In Los Angeles USES

LOS ANGELES — "For White Applicants Only" reads the sign in the Los Angeles office of the United States Unemployment Service.

Negro veteran job-hunters look, rub their eyes, and look again. The sign is still there, and it's the old story of last-to-be-hired, first-to-be-fired.

Even when he turns to accept the weekly $20 which the government allows him for unemployment compensation, he must fall into a Jim Crow line such as the one formed daily in the nation's capital at 503 D st., northwest, where the USES and the United States Unemployment Compensation Commission follows a strict segregation policy.

L. A. Or Dixie?

The ex-GIs don't expect it—not in Los Angeles which isn't **supposed** to be Dixie, nor Washington, D. C. Occasionally they just "get into a line." An official will tap one of them on the shoulder and tell him, in no uncertain terms, "You colored folks will be taken care of in **that** line over there."

With 1,680,000 veterans looking for jobs, and the government frankly admits that the figure will probably reach 2,500,000 by June 30, the Negro vet also finds all the jobs traditionally considered "suitable" or "good enough" for Negroes have been slipped into one category and blanketed with the title, "Minority Groups Section of the United States Unemployment Service."

Some Negro veterans would like to open their own businesses. They need advice and capital.

Vet Wants Advice

A veteran attending the closing session of the Ninth Annual Conference of the Division of Social Sciences at Howard University, told a speaker:

"I have everything it takes to go into business except capital. Please tell me how I can get some capital."

H. Naylor Fitzhugh, head of the department of commerce at Howard University, retorted, "If you have everything it takes to go into business except capital, you also have what it takes to get the capital."

Job Ads in 24 Large Dailies Ask Race, Creed; South Leads

NEW YORK—More than four per cent of all help-wanted ads contain discriminatory specifications, according to the American Jewish Congress which investigated 50,139 ads appearing in 24 of the nation's largest daily newspapers.

Five of them — the Baltimore and American, New York Post, Houston Post, Kansas City Star, New Orleans Times-Picayune and Washington Star, located in areas where segregation laws exist, carried more than half (1,182) of the 2,084 "race-restrictive" ads that appeared.

In non-segregated States, 18 newspapers carried 902 of such ads. Other discriminatory specifications were religion, 144; nationality, 30; Christian firm, three; near churches, one; photo required, 28; and birth certificate,

Religious Prejudice

The Atlanta Constitution, excluded from all totals, carried separate column headings for colored help. White help-wanted accounted for 61.2%, and colored, 28.7% of the total ads in the paper.

Ads specifiying "religion" appeared in the Chicago Tribune, Cincinnatti Enquirer, Houston Post, Indianapolis Star, Kansas City Star, Minneapolis Tribune, Newark News, Philadelphia Bulletin, Pittsburgh Press and Washington Star.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer carried no discriminatory ads.

The Buffalo Courier-Express published discriminatory ads, in violation of

Instigators From Other Parts

The right of an employer to discriminate in employing on account of race, color or creed cannot be destroyed without the destruction of the right of a man to individual liberty. The News and Courier insists that a Roman Catholic has the right to prefer a Roman Catholic to a Jew or to a Protestant when he hires a household servant or a secretary, and the Jew and Protestant have similar rights. It has never been uncommon in the South for white persons to discriminate in favor of negroes when they employ for certain service. We have personally known of instances of that kind. Always colored and white artisans have been employed together in building houses in the South and always has been complete separation of races in some of the industries, notably the textile industry. Racial animosities in the South are for the most part instigated by outsiders of pharisaical disposition. At this time the outsiders are trying to stir trouble in the South.

State laws currently in [illegible] against such discrimination.

Although it was reported that no discriminatory ads appeared in New York City newspapers since passage of the Hart Bill in 1942, many violators have been getting around the law in "real estate" ads by specifying "for selected clientele" or "nearby to churches."

Negro Textile Workers Are Offended By Discrimination Of CIO Organizer

Negro textile workers in mills near West Point, Ga., are reported offended by the actions of CIO organizers who refused them admittance to a meeting held recently in that town. According to an editorial in the Chattahoochee Valley Times, the organizers told a group of Negroes that the meeting was "for white people only." The editorial said that the Negroes had previously been told that in a CIO union there is "no discrimination and no segregation of races," and hinted that the organizers were experiencing trouble among its white supporters because of this policy. Full text of the editorial entitled "CIO Makes a Mistake," was as follows:

Local CIO organizers have offended some of their Negro sympathizers in the valley. The organizers refused to let Negroes attend a meeting "for white people only," held last Thursday night in West Point. But the Negroes have been told that in a CIO union there is "no discrimination, no segregation of races"—that a black man is just as good as a white man, that a black man will share every advantage of a white man in any kind of CIO organization.

Could it be that the local CIO organizers reported to their headquarters they were having trouble in the valley by advocating racial equality, that the white sympathizers in the valley were objecting to Negroes' being "taken into the union" on an equal basis with the whites?

Could it be that CIO Headquarters gave orders to the local organizers to "go easy right now" on the race question, gave orders to the local organizers to hold separate meetings temporarily for whites and blacks in the valley "until you get organized, and then clamp down, forcing the whites to accept the Negroes on an equal basis?"

What will CIO members in the South and throughout the Nation say when they hear about this "racial discrimination," this "racial segregation," that was practiced by the CIO organizers last week in the valley? Particularly, what will Negro CIO members say when they hear that their colored sympathizers in the valley were barred from a meeting, held "for white people only?" And will the local Negro sympathizers remain silent, not protesting to CIO Headquarters that they have been "discriminated against?"

This is what happened last Thursday night. Near the appointed hour for the Union meeting in the tiny little office located in West Point, a handful of white people and a handful of Negroe assembled on the sidewalk, prep aratory to going upstairs to th office.

When one of the organizer walked up to the group o Negroes, the following conversa tion was overheard:

Organizer—"Are you men here to attend the meeting tonight?'

Answer—"Yes, sir."

Organizer—"Well, this meeting is for the white people only. We are going to hold a meeting next week for you colored people."

Comment—"But the notice said that everybody was invited to this meeting."

Organizer—"Well, that was a mistake. You men come back next week—we'll hold your meeting then."

The Negroes, some of them unmistakeably disgruntled, walked away. They had been "discriminated against." Previously they had been assured that the CIO is opposed to, that the CIO will not tolerate—any kind of racial segregation, in its program.

Why did the local CIO organizers change their minds, their tactics? Why did they admit they had "made a mistake" when they announced the Thursday night meeting was to be held "for everybody?" Had the organizers discovered that their white sympathizers don't want to sit in the same meeting, inside a crowded little office, with their black associates? Were the white sympathizers satisfied with this little arrangement "just for the time being?"

Illinois

Pepsodent Won't Hire Negro Typist; Chicago's Fair Job Law Faces Test

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

CHICAGO—(ANP)—This city's new fair employment ordinance may soon be tested through the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee's case against the discriminatory employment policies of the Pepsodent Company. The former sponosors of Amos 'n' Andy refused to hire Miss Helen Harmon as a typist because she is a Negro.

Miss Harmon, a student of Roosevelt College here, answered an ad in a local daily newspaper in the middle of March. She talked by telephone with the personnel director, who told her to report for work. But when she reported, she was told that the Pepsodent Company does not hire colored typists. The white employers would quit if Negro typists were hired, he said.

ADMITS STATEMENT

Milton Wenzler, personnel director, admitted that the company does not hire Negro typists on the ground that white office workers will quit.

"I am afraid our employes would not like it," he answered to a direct query as to whether the company would employ Negro office workers. Negroes are hired only in a menial capacity by Pepsodent, he said.

Pepsodent sponsors the Bob Hope show, and is a branch of an international Lever Brothers soap cartel, which sells millions of dollars worth of their products to American Negroes.

The Chicago Civil Liberties Committee will file an affidavit with the city prosecutor against the Pepsodent Company, said Graten Little, minorities secretary, marking the first test case for the new city fair employment ordinance, which was enacted last year.

Discrimination Key Factor In Bogged Down Housing Program

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-21-46

Discrimination against Negroes in apprentice training programs and labor recruiting in construction trades were revealed in a Chicago area survey last week as the major elements in a labor snag, threatening the all-out national effort to end the housing shortage.

The Chicago situation, regarded as typical of other areas of the country, discloses such a serious neglect of building workers and potential building workers, simply because they are Negro, as to amount to a criminal sabotage of the whole housing program.

George Nesbitt, race relations advisor for the Chicago regional office of the National Housing Agency, disclosed that though thousands of Negro veterans received basic training in the construction industry only a few are being trained as building trades apprentices in Chicago.

Negroes Excluded

Of the 40 Negro appretices known to be taking training at present 33 are veterans and only two of the total have been admitted to Washburne Trade School where there are, in comparison, 1,900 white veterans enrolled.

The Chicago Building Trades Council reports, according to Nesbitt, that a total of 12,500 apprentices are being trained and that 95 per cent of them are veterans. A force of 5,500 Negro potential builders is virtually untapped.

Part of the specific blame for this situation rests with lily-white unions mainly independent or AFL such as the plumbers, steamfitters, lathers and roofers. These unions control admissions to Washburne in spite of the fact that it is a public school, supported from public funds, and is the principal training agency for veterans here.

Contractors likewise have shown a disposition not to take on Negro veterans as apprentices.

The irony of this situation is that though this discriminatory policy rests against Negro workers, it is also disadvantageous to thousands of white veterans in dire need of adequate housing.

Other Manifestations

Other manifestations of Jim Crow menace to the national housing picture are being gradually whittled away. In San Francisco veterans are now being admitted to public housing facilities on a "first come first served" basis that takes no cognizance of color, creed or nationality.

This is one of the most forward steps that has been taken by any city in the solution of its housing dilemma. Groundwork for this was laid by the Council for Civic Unity first in extensive factual studies of segregation and discrimination in local units and followed by a two-month campaign of sustained pressure on the Board of Supervisors.

In New York progress has been made in a three-way attack upon restrictive covenants. Noteworthy is the amendment to the Tenement Rehabilitation bill that has been drafted by the Commission on Law and Social Action of the American Jewish Congress.

The bill itself was passed in 1944 and forbids discrimination in tax exempt housing projects. The proposed amendment, that is given a fair chance of passage, extends the anti-discrimination provisions to cover renovated apartments.

The commission has also drafted a bill to render restrictive covenants unenforceable. A similar bill died in committee at the last session of the legislature, but sentiment developed at that time is expected to help put the measure over when offered next year.

Chicago Lags Behind

Another amendment to the New York State Real Property Law would give authority for the suspension of licenses of real estate brokers who handle race restrictive covenants.

In Chicago little progress has been made in the fight on restrictive covenants, defenders of whom are now resorting to violence in an effort to maintain the iron band around the South Side Negro ghetto.

The conclusions to be drawn from these observations is simple and plain: Those interested in stepping up the housing program must commit themselves to a preliminary fight against the stumbling blocks of Fascism and Jim Crow.

MacArthur Headquarters Blamed For Ban

Chicago, Ill
Chicago Defender
Sat 2-2-46

Ex-GIs Refused Work Despite Appeals For Civilian Labor

TOKYO — Negroes have been banned from jobs in Japan.

In the mid-Pacific, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Allied Headquarters have laid down a strict, Nazi-like policy against hiring Negroes for civilian positions in Nippon, it was revealed here this week.

Hardest hit have been Negro GIs who fought under General Douglas MacArthur to win the bloody battle of Japan, many of whom have asked for work as civilians in the liberated country.

The Army's answer this week was that no colored GI would be allowed to work in either Japan or Korea.

Request Rejected

Despite near-frantic calls for civilian workers, the Army reaffirmed its race rule when the Office of Civilian Personnel reported that nine out of 10 potential civilian workers in their huge pool were Negroes.

The OCP's request for reconsideration of the anti-Negro policy has been flatly rejected.

How long the bitter ban against Negro GIs has stood is not exactly known. However, it is known that as early as November Allied headquarters asked the commanding general of the mid-Pacific to hold back the transfer of a Negro soldier on the grounds that no other Negroes were assigned to headquarters.

Sat 2-2-46

High officials in this area claim that Negroes are banned because no adequate living space can be found for them.

Meanwhile the Army's desperate search for lily-white workers was put into the hands of the Pacific Stars and Stripes which has been asked to publicize job opportunities open to GIs about to leave the armed forces.

The OCP is in urgent need of 400 men and women ranging from operating enginemen and cryptographic technicians to 100 stenographers. There are also 75 vacancies for men in Korea.

Charges Discrimination At Rural Plant

Decentralization of many big industries through the location of small manufacturing units in rural communities is constantly gaining in popularity. To the credit of Kentucky, our communities are not overlooking the opportunities to profit by this trend. Several small cities have such plants in operation, and others are planning to do so.

Typical of these units is one now under construction in a Western Kentucky town. It is planned to employ 300 to 400 workers. Inquiry revealed that all of these workers are to be white persons, although a fourth of the population is of native colored persons, most of whom are home owners and highly respectable citizens. "Lack of training for industrial sewing" was the explanation given a committee who sought employment for the colored workers. Meanwhile, practically the whole white crew will have to be trained for the work.

It is difficult to understand why chambers of commerce and local committees which seek economic prosperity for their towns could ignore this large group of native, local laborers and citizens, and expect their investments to pay maximum returns either in finance or community welfare.

As a native Kentuckian myself, and a member of the Committee for Kentucky, I present this condition for the sober consideration of community planners throughout the State who seek the sound industrial development of their towns and counties.

Paducah, Ky. H. C. RUSSELL.

21c 1946

Louisiana

24 Veterans Suspended, Refused To Do Laborer's Work; Were Semi-Skilled

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La 2-2-46

Twenty-four Negro war veterans of World War II who have fought all over the globe for "democracy and fair play" found that same is not practiced here at the New Orleans Port of Embarkation where they were employed. According to the veterans, who are now protesting, what they term a rank injustice, through the local branch of the NAACP, the NOPE has shown open job discrimination against them by ordering them to do laborer's work when they are qualified to do semi-skilled work and not ordering white workers hired in the same capacity to do laborer's work. When the vets resented such a notorious violation of the Fair Employment Practice Act, which is still in effect, they were suspended.

In a letter to Col. Sam H. Baker, commanding officer of the NOPE, Daniel Byrd, executive secretary of the local NAACP branch, wrote:

"We are in receipt of complaint signed by 15 employees who were temporarily suspended as of 24 January, 1946, under the signature of Minturn M. Snider, Captain. 2-2-46

"These men were employed in Motor Pool and charge that they were ordered to do Labor Work and same was not required of White employees in Motor Pool. This order was a violation of the Fair Employment Practice Act issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and the President of the United States. This act is still in force, not only in spirit but in remedial action itself being taken.

"It is the request of these men that this temporary suspension be aired at a public hearing of the Grievance Procedure set up under the Port Transportation Regulation by Lt. Gen. Brehon Somerval and that the local NAACP will represent them at said hearing.

"I would appreciate being notified, officially, as to when and where the hearing will take place and having the Industrial Personnel Officer notify each one of these gentlemen whose names are hereby attached."

Among the fifteen men suspended were Andrew Kelly, 3118 Gravier St., and Joseph Woodfork Jr., 2223 London Ave., who along with the others filed affidavits with the NAACP. Kelly was in the South Pacific for 14 months, where he was under fire and wounded. He's also entitled to wear three bronze campaign stars. In a joint statement with Woodfork, the following was revealed: "We were hired at New Orleans Port of Embarkation as semi-skilled and assigned to the Motor Pool.

"On Wednesday, Jan. 23, 1946, the eight white employees employed in Motor Pool were dispatched with Motor Equipment and we were ordered by Captain Andrew R. Walley to report for labor work. 2-2-46

"This act on the part of Captain Walley was one of discrimination of requiring Negro employees to do labor work and not requiring same of whites. The practice has been in the Port that you are to be tried out in labor pool and if your classification is demoted you are paid at the rate of 63 cents an hour instead of 68-75 cents per hour.

"In the case of Andrew J. Kelly, veteran of World War II, shot in the leg and same being operated on was physically unable to do labor work, the authenticity of which is verified by the Veterans Administration, and who at present draws partial disability benefit.

"About eight weeks ago nine Negro men objected to the same type of discrimination and were fired outright which was in violation of Employee Personnel Relation by not suspending the men first—giving them a chance to answer the charges and permitting them to ask for a hearing under the grievance procedure, set up under Port Transportation Regulations."

Other parties of the 15 discharged men made similar statements, with only a few exceptions. One statement revealed that of of the whites three were veterans and five non-veterans."

Among the men seeking justice with the NAACP as their intermediary are: Elijah Hollins, 2905 Philip St.; Milton Goodman, 2632 Rousseau St.; Joseph Kaufman, 6504 Selma St.; John Lee Ewing, 2123 D'Abadie St.; Ernest Sherman, 2616 So. Rocheblave St.; Lawrence G. Houston, 1022 Kerlerec St.; Earl Joseph Jones, Violet, La.; Peter Robinson, 1724 Iberville St.; Louis J. Lewis, 2201 Felicity St.; Alphonse Gallaway, 611 Muriat St.; William M. Rose, 9032 Forshey St., and Ernest Bailey, 686 N. Tonti St.

Fire And Rehire Unioners On SS President Ship

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

Last Friday afternoon about 55 waiters, bus girls, porters and deck hands who work on the pleasure ship S. S. President went over to the National Maritime Union headquarters to pledge their support in the seamen's fight for better working conditins. When they returned to the President's dock at the foot of Canal St., they were notified by the captain that they were fired. The men and women never had any intention of striking; they had simply gone to the NMU hall to do their bit in the fight to better the notoriously bad working conditions of maritime workers.

The locked out workers, all members of the Masters, Mates and Pilots, AFL union, had no hall of their own to meet and organize in. They asked NMU for the use of the hall and organized a committee to get their jobs back. A picket line was strung around the President's dock.

A lawyer was sent to represent the company to meet and arbitrate with the workers. An agreement was reached whereby the men returned to work with pay for the time they were locked out. After violating the Wagner Act in locking the workers out the company also consented to the stopping of nightly payments to the headwaiter; previously all waiters had paid 50 cents a night contribution. The lawyer also consented to the reinstatement of one waiter and one bus girl who had been transferred from full time employment to week-end work for engaging in union activity. The men were further guaranteed that they would not be molested again for union activity. 6-22-46

A question exists over a contract which the company says it has with the AFL union, specifying a dues check-off and a closed shop. The men requested that this contract be produced. Sat.

A representative of the President workers said the men and women had given the captain notice that they were going to attend the meeting at NMU. They were given no notice that they would lose their jobs. He pointed out that this action on the part of the President owners was an overt violation of the Wagner Act which prohibits the firing of any person for engaging in union activity.

Bilbo State Hotel Fires All Bell Boys

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

JACKSON, Miss. (ANP) — The Edwards hotel fired its Negro bellboys here last week and replaced them with white bell boys.

Patrons at the Edwards had been served by Negro bell boys for almost three quarters of a century.

No notice was given to the bellboys until the day the change was made. Bellboys coming to work for the 11 o'clock shift found the white boys already in uniform and at work. According to reports this was the first knowledge that even the bell captains had that the change was being contemplated. Sat 4-20-46

The Edwards usually employs about 30 bellboys. Included among those fired were a number of honorably discharged veterans, previously employed at the Edwards, and who had returned to their jobs upon release from service.

Whites Hired

NEGRO BELL BOYS FIRED; NO NOTICE

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP) — The Edwards Hotel fired its Negro bellboys here last week and replaced them with white bellboys.

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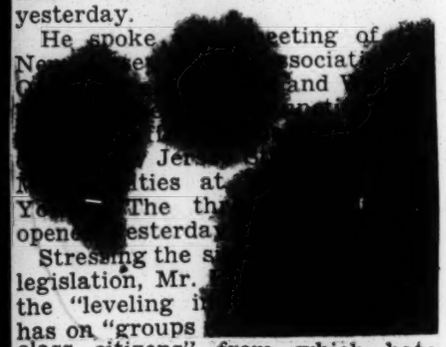
The Edwards usually employs about thirty bellboys. Sat. 5-20-46

Anti-Bias Law Urged to Aid Minorities And Reduce the Ranks of 'Hate Groups'

The Times New York, N.Y. Thurs. 11-21-46

Anti-discrimination legislation, removing prejudice in employment of minority groups, will serve to reduce the ranks of "hate and un-American groups who feed on the underprivileged," Joseph L. Bustard, administrator of New Jersey's Anti-Discrimination Law, declared yesterday.



He spoke [illegible] eeting of [illegible] Ne[illegible] sociat[illegible] and [illegible] Jer[illegible] ities at [illegible] Yo[illegible] The th[illegible] opene[illegible] esterda[illegible]

Stressing the s[illegible] legislation, Mr. [illegible] the "leveling i[illegible] has on "groups [illegible] class citizens" from which hate groups seek converts. He said the removal of prejudice in employing minorty groups will improve their economic plight and remove them from the population of malcontents. He added that such legislation would also be a weapon against the "promised land" arguments of the Communists.

Discussing the progress of the program in New Jersey, Mr. Bustard said his office had received 200 verified complaints between July 1, 1945, and Oct. 31 of this year, and that all but thirty-five had been settled through conciliation and conference. He appealed to his audience of welfare worker[illegible] to sympathize with minor[illegible] groups, and warned against "g[illegible] generalizations" on their [illegible]tan[illegible] for employment.

100 Girls Turned Down By Telephone Company

The People's Voice New York, N.Y.
Sat 3-2-46

Next time you pick up a 'phone, think of this:

Despite its big ads in the New York Daily News, the New York Times and the New York Journal-American, pleading for girls —"no experience necessary"— for jobs as telephone operators, clerks, office assistants, typists, waitresses and kitchen helper, the employment office of the New York Telephone Company at 115 W 42 st, just off Times Square, flatly turned down nearly 100 Negro applicants February 19, 20 and 21.

Complaints to the State Committee Against Discrimination (SCAD) were to be filed by some of the girls at the office of Benjamin M. Zelman, attorney, 100 W 42 st, Tuesday, as PV went to press. PV has a list of the girls rejected.

Many of the girls have high school, college and business training. Nine of the girls attended a press interview Monday at the lawyer's office and said that each was told by the personnel interviewers: "You don't meet the requirements." When asked what the requirements were, they were only told, "I can't say."

Only three of the nine, they said, were given tests — diction tests: Mrs. Helen Graves, 32, of 473 W 158 st; Franzella Hall, 21, of 326 Convent av, and Ida Tarpley, 28, 110 Convent av. Mrs. Graves was graduated from high school and from Jack Blue's Dramatic School in downtown NY; Miss Hall was graduated from high school and from the Harlem YWCA business school; Miss Tarpley attended high school in McClellandtown, Pa.

The three named above and these six signed a complaint in the lawyer's office: Vernell Cofield, 30, 315 E 102, graduate of Douglas HS in Baltimore and Julia Ward Howe HS here, and a postoffice clerk in Baltimore, applied for a clerk's job. Mrs. Mrs. Ghonieteen Brown, 21, of 308 W 145 st, graduate of I. C. Norcom HS, Portsmouth, Va., applied for operator. Sat 3-2-46

Gladys Todd, 18, 1634 Amsterdam av, two years at Spellman College, Atlanta, Ga., applied for operator. Toni Johnson, 25, 241 W 113, attended Wadleigh HS, applied for operator. Edith Jefferson, 18, 3 W 114 st, graduate of Washington Irving HS, applied for operator and clerk. Mary Garrett, 21, 51 W 128, graduate of high school in Greensville, SC, applied for operator.

George DeMar, industrial secretary of the Urban League, 207 W 136 st, was present at the interview Monday and said that the qualifications for telephone operator in January of 1945 were: two years HS, citizen, age 17 to 40, be in good health; next: pass a reading test for voice (enunciation, diction, etc.), test the reach (to determine arm length), test eyesight (color blindness eliminates operator), manual dexterity, adaptability and compatibility (able to get along with others in trying situations), memory, appearance, and dependability.

PV, back in December of 1944, front-paged the fact of the hiring of the first Negro girl by the 'phone company. DeMar said that there are about 200 Negro telephone operators today in New York.

One of the rejected girls, Vernell Cofield, said a Jewish girl, who was turned down by the telephone firm, told her: "They're not hiring Jewish, Italian or colored girls. They're not hiring Jewish girls because they say they have too many holidays."

The girls said they were interviewed by one of the following 'phone personnel consultants: Mrs. Hand, Mrs. Bayer, Mrs. Winters, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Norton.

Ask Con-Edison Probe on Bias

Daily Worker New York

"An immediate Grand Jury investigation of the Consolidated Edison Company, the New York Telephone Company and the Brooklyn Union Gas Company, which refuse to employ Jewish stenographers or clerks," was urged by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress.

Discrimination by a public utility company is a misdemeanor under Section 42 of the Civil Rights Law, Dr. Wise pointed out in a letter to Miles F. McDonald, Kings County District Attorney. Mon. 2-11-46

Dr. Wise quoted Joseph Fisher, president of the Brotherhood of Consolidated Edison Employees, as saying that only one-half of one percent of the 25,000 Edison employees were Jews and only one percent were Negroes. Mon. 2-11-46

"Such token employment in a city in which Jews constitute 28 percent and Negroes six percent of the population is a clear cut indication of a deep rooted discriminatory policy," Dr. Wise asserted.

Sun Oil Co. Refuses Job to War Vet, Wants White Only

afro american Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — The Sun Oil Company recently turned down a colored war veteran, Samuel Reed, Jr., for a job aboard a ship in Marcus Hook, Pa., the AFRO learned last week.

"We want white only!" the company is reported to have said in explaining its rejection of the veteran. The National Maritime Union will take up Reed's fight. 2-9-46

The Sun Oil Company, producers of the popular Sunoco gasoline, is one of the few corporations still practicing jim crow in its employment of merchant seaman, despite efforts to have the policy dropped.

Await Airline Jobs: Among the 12 Negro pilots who applied for commercial jobs, Tuesday, at the Eastern Airlines, at 16 Rockefeller Plaza are: James W. Warren, John J. Mulzac, Leonard Vaughan, Enswith K. Whitney and Lawrence A. Brown. None were hired.

Daily Workers New York Thurs. 3-21-46

LIBERTIES UNION ASKS TEETH IN BIAS LAW

New York Times, 9-27-46 Wednesday

The American Civil Liberties Union met yesterday at 40 East Fortieth Street to discuss measures to "make the work of the State Commission on Discrimination effective." Roger Baldwin, executive secretary, who presided, said that the 1,200 members of the union had agreed to hold three meetings at a future date to "explore the fields of colleges and trade union discrimination."

Leroy Jeffries of the National Urban League, 1133 Broadway, criticized the commission for operating without furnishing sufficient information to the public, and charged that "organizations interested in the welfare of the people who suffer discrimination" have been unable to get "needed information on how the law works and what to do when discriminated against in employment."

Mrs. Dian S. Levinson of American Jewish Congress that the law operates "in a wa render helpless" organizations cerned with the welfare of nority groups. "One never gets a clear-cut case of discrimination as defined by law," she said.

Henry C. Turner, chairman of the State commission, defined the purposes of the Ives-Quinn act to be "to change public attitudes on discrimination, something which centuries have not accomplished," and said that the commission "to date" has not received "a single case brought against a trade unio for discrimination, although w know that certain unions hav constitutions which discriminate.

NEGRO PIER WORKERS HELD BIAS TARGETS

Peoples Voice, 3-16-46

Joseph Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Association, was accused yesterday of "wholesale discrimination against Negroes." The Rev. Charles Y. Trigg, pastor of Salem Methodist Church, 2199 Seventh Avenue, in who "accepts" gratuities making that charge asked that names of complaining longshore men be withheld until such time as they feel "safe" in making a public charge. Mr. Trigg held that Negro longshoremen get the worst jobs, mainly to unload sand, iron ore, cement and other "bad cargoes." In order to be hired, he said, it is necessary for Negroes to congregate at designated corners in Harlem or Brooklyn to await a "boss steve-

Negro Pilots Challenge Airline Jimcrow Policy

Daily Worker Wed 3-20-46

New York, N.Y.

Eastern Airlines' Jimcrow policy against employing Negro pilots was challenged yesterday when a group of 12 Negro pilots applied for jobs at the company's offices, 10 Rockefeller Plaza. The group included John B. Mulzac, Flight Officer and nephew of the famous Negro merchant marine captain, Hugh Mulzac.

The pilots, members of the Aeronautical Association, which meets Monday nights at the 135th street YMCA, were given application blanks to fill out, but were told there were no openings at present. They were advised by the company there were no openings till the end of May or the first part of June, but were given no promise of any jobs at that time or later.

The group application was organized by George De Mar, of the Urban League. The League stated yesterday that it knew of no Negro pilots that have been employed so far by Eastern Airlines.

This was confirmed by the company, which, when contacted by the Daily Worker, stated that not only are no Negro pilots employed, but that the company's policy is to employ white pilots only in the near future. The excuse given was that former employees among whom were no Negroes, would be favored as they returned from the Army. The company refused to say whether its Jimcrow policy would ever be changed.

Members of the Aeronautical Association have applied individually at private airlines for jobs, but this is the first time they have applied as a group.

The group will apply at other airlines.

Others in the group, in addition to Mulzac, were:

Edward Gibbs, 26, chairman of the Aeronautical Association, of 957 Carlwell Ave. Gibbs was for five years flight instructor for the Army, and was a civilian instructor before the war. Wed 3-20-46.

Archie Smith, 38, 22 Mt. Morris Park, flight instructor.

Ivan J. McRae, Jr., 48 Portland Place, Yonkers, formerly of the 477 Bombardier Group; two years in Army and one year of civilian pilot training.

Yeniuth Whitney, 3161 Albany Crescent, of the 332nd Fighter Group; two and a half years in Army, ten months overseas.

Lawrence Brown, 158-05 111th Ave., 99th Pursuit Squadron; four years in the Army.

Bill Wheeler, 555 Edgecomb Ave., overseas veteran, 332nd Fighter Group.

James W. Warren, 395 Monroe St., Brooklyn, Flight Officer, four years in the Army, 99th Pursuit Squadron.

Vincent Dean, 106-17 34th Ave., Corona, L. I., 332nd Fighter Group.

N.Y. Anti-Bias Law Successful

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Settle 224 Cases Without Hearings

Sat 3-30-46

NEW YORK—The State Commission Against Discrimination reported to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey last Thursday that the first eight months' operation of the much-debated anti-discrimination law has proved it wise and workable.

Operating as "a co-operative enterprise" rather than a punitive expedition, the five-man commission undertook 319 investigations of alleged discrimination against races and creeds and was able to settle 224 cases without a formal hearing. The other 95 cases were still in the active file March 1.

Under the law, one of the commissioners handles each investigation and if his recommendations are not followed the case is referred for a hearing by three other members of the commission. A formal order by the commission is subject to review by the Supreme Court and appeal to the Court of Appeals.

Of the 224 cases disposed of, 178 were based on individual complaints, eleven of these were withdrawn or abandoned, 55 were dismissed on jurisdictional grounds and 37 on the merits. In the remaining 75 cases the commissioners found evidence of discrimination and were able to eliminate the unlawful practices by conference and conciliation, the report said.

Negroes File Most

The largest groups of complainants were Negro workers, who filed one hundred five complaints; Jews, who filed 58, and persons of Italian extraction, who filed 25.

The commission itself initiated 79 investigations and closed 46, twelve having failed to disclose any unlawful practices. In the other 34 cases the commissioners succeeded in ending violations, they reported.

"The commission is under no delusion," the report said, "that discriminatory employment practices have been eliminated or that the relatively small number of complaints filed are indicative of the extent of such discrimination. It recognizes that elimination of discrimination must be the result of untiring effort not only in the enforcement of the statute but in a program of education."

COLUMBIA JOB AGENCY ACCUSED OF RACE BIAS

The New York

Sun

The American Jewish Congress announced yesterday that it had filed a complaint with the New York State Commission on Discrimination against Columbia University charging the institution with discrimination in its placement policies.

The complaint asserted that the university operated an employment agency known as an "appointment office" and that the unit, the violation of Section 131 (3) of the Ives-Quinn law, used personnel forms that seek to have the applicant state his or her race, religion and nationality.

New York Herald Tribune

The complaint also declared that the American Jewish Congress "is a membership corporation chartered under the laws of the State of New York to protect the civil and economic rights of Jews" and that by virtue of this purpose, the organization is an "aggrieved person" within the meaning of the Ives-Quinn law.

New York Times

The organization's announcement said the complaint was separate from the recent action brought by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the congress, to compel the New York Tax Commission to cancel the university's tax exemption on the ground that Columbia discriminated against Jews, Italians, Negroes and Roman Catholics in the selection of its students.

Post

Sun

On March 26, Harry B. Chalmers, president of the City Tax Commission, announced that the group would not act on Dr. Wise's petition because of a pending appeal from a Supreme Court decision that discrimination by a non-sectarian educational corporation was not ground for canceling its tax exemption.

NMU Lays Off Biased Crew

16 Refuse Negro Shipmate, Replaced

NEW YORK — Jim Crow was heaved overboard this week by the National Maritime Union after a white crew refused to ship on a lake tanker, SS Meteor, with a Negro seaman.

The anti-Negro seamen were promptly paid off and a new crew, including Joseph Williams, the Negro wiper, was signed on the Meteor.

The former crew of 16 men, which balked at working with a Negro sent out by the union hall, is now up on charges before the Chicago NMU membership.

Biased Action Condemned

Their discriminatory action was bitterly condemned at a membership meeting here last Monday. John Rogan, secretary of the NMU negotiating committee, reported the incident on his return after enforcing the no-bias principles of the union's constitution.

He said that the white seamen held that it would be "undemocratic" to make any crew ship with a Negro if they did not want to. The suspended members also stated that shipping Negroes on the lakes is "detrimental" to the union's organizing drive in that area.

Because three union officials attempted to persuade them to stick to their own NMU constitution and contract, which bars racial discrimination, the 16-man crew accused them of "goon" tactics.

The "disgraceful conduct of the ex-crew of the Meteor" was lashed by speakers at the New York membership meeting. It was pointed out that the incident provided "just the sort of weapon the ship owners like, and they don't always have the good fortune to find it ready-made."

At a time when the NMU with other maritime unions is setting the stage for a strike, Port Agent Joseph Stack declared, "anything which endangers unity of the membership and gives a divisive weapon to the shipowners, strikes at the very heart of the union and its cause."

Ripping the claim that the shipping of a Negro or Negroes could endanger the organizing drive on the lakes, Stack snapped, "The reason we **can have** an organizing drive on the lakes is because all members—white, black or yellow—pay their dues!"

He called on the membership to erase any traces of discrimination in their ranks, both ashore and on ships.

By a unanimous vote the New York membership agreed to notify lake ports and tankers and all ports of the NMU that it upholds the no-bias principles of the union and endorses the action taken in ousting the men who refused to sail on the SS Meteor with a Negro brother.

a-dozen plumbers, about 300 painters, 120 plumbers and two plasterers.

Where the main fault lies, the Urban League survey does not attempt to say. Undoubtedly it lies with all of us—with the unions that refuse, on one pretext or another, to accept Negro apprentices; with the employer who offers Negroes only unskilled or semi-skilled jobs; with the widely held and fallacious belief that a white man is born with some special skill in handling tools that is denied the man of color.

Sat. 6-22-46

The Negro composes approximately one-tenth of our population. He shares, however, through no basic fault of his own, a much smaller proportion of the decent living to which his wages and income. For no other real talents would entitle him if son than that his skin is dark he is to practice the economic denied that equal opportunity that is which we preach. Among supposed to be guaranteed all Americans. New York City's large Negro popula- or instance, there are only

JOBS FOR NEGRO WORKERS

The National Urban League has made public statistics to show how generally the Negro is barred from earning the decent living to which his individual talents would entitle him if we were to practice the economic equality which we preach. Among New York City's large Negro population, for instance, there are only

Many Housing Jobs Closed to Negroes

The taking of steps to insure the use of Negro labor in the emergency housing program recently authorized by Congress was urged in a statement sent to Emanuel Lerner, labor branch director of the National Housing Agency by Julius A. Thomas of the Nat'l Urban League. Thomas warned that unless there was special action on the part of agency, competent Negro workers would be out of jobs because of discrimination, despite a national shortage of skilled workers.

Sat 6-15-46

The Urban League named the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL), and the United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steamfitters (AFL), as building unions which exclude Negroes or discourage their membership.

Many vets in Army engineering units, Thomas pointed out, receive

St. Louis

d that not only are Negroes from the Carpenters' Union, t president A. M. Hutcheson refused to charter a segre ro local.

Urban League is registering s who received training in trades while in the armed nd is contacting local home and representatives of con- firms who will receive con- nder the new US housing , in order to secure the em- t of Negro mechanics and en.

The report which covered building construction employment in 21 cities found that in 9 cities—including New York, Detroit, Philadelphia, Newark, and Cleveland—Negroes were generally integrated into the building trades, except for the two unions named. New Orleans, however, reported that the city refused to license either Negro

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twenty-two with electricians' licenses. There are about 260 carpenters, half

Insurance Execs. Dodge Race Bias Queries

Mon. 11-11-46 Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By John Meldon

We had an interesting conversation with none other than Herbert C. Rhoades, king pin of all personnel for Metropolitan Life Insurance. Topic of the conversation, which was rather strained, was that a reputable organization, after a careful probe, has charged that big insurance companies are anti-Semitic to the core, except when it comes to writing policies and collecting premiums. In short, it is charged that the big insurance companies—and yours is the biggest Mr. Rhoades—are violating the laws of N. Y. State. Met. Life, for example, hired 4.3 percent Jews among its clerical help while the Jews actually represent 27.8 percent of the city population. Furthermore, its hiring policy towards Negroes is even more shocking, the score being 0.3 percent to be exact.

When I mentioned all this, Mr. Rhoades squirmed a bit and said, finally:

"I am not interested in such surveys."

We came directly to the point and said the original study was revealed in **Law and Social Action**, publication of the American Jewish Congress. And while we would take Mr. Rhoades at his word that he "was not interested," would he kindly talk to us man-to-man and give us his own figures regarding the number of Jews and Negroes among the thousands of clerical workers employed by his gigantic company?

To this, Mr. Rhoades told the Daily Worker reporter: "I have no way of telling. We do not keep records of races in our employ."

Very neat, indeed! So we asked: "Well, from your own observations, looking around your main office here at 1 Madison Avenue, would you say you've ever seen many Negroes or in looking over your personal files, are there many names you would recognize as Jewish?"

At that point Mr. Rhoades seemed to become annoyed and terminated the interview.

WE TRY AGAIN

Next we tried our darndest to see W. J. Bolce, chief of personnel of the big Prudential Insurance Co. Apparently Mr. Bolce is allergic to reporters from the Daily Worker who want to ask about employment of Jews and Negroes. Repeated calls to his Newark, N. J. office met with bland replies by his secretary: "Mr. Bolce just stepped out." He will be back in an hour." I saw him here a moment ago. . . ." And so on, until we came to the conclusion that Mr. Bolce simply didn't want to talk.

Significantly, the same insurance companies that refuse to hire Jews and Negroes as clerical workers, do employ a proportionately larger number of workers outside among the collectors. The reason is obvious. A Metropolitan or Prudential collector in the Bronx deals with a predominantly Jewish population and after all, "a buck is a buck" even to these billionaire outfits.

The personnel managers among the scores of insurance companies covered in the survey had some interesting alibis to fall back upon when confronted with their deliberate policies of discriminating against Jews.

Some argued they "had nothing personal against Jews, but the Jews are more inclined to business or professional life; they don't like routine and mechanical work in clerical posts." Others said the Jews were too "aggressive." (We always thought business firms lauded aggresiveness. Or maybe we read too much of Horatio Alger in your own.)

However, in two Jewish-owned insurance companies and one government insurance bureau, one third of the employes were Jews, which sort of proves that Jews do not shy away from such employment, and apparently the alleged "aggresiveness" does not hurt their efficiency, otherwise they might be fired.

The publication **Law and Social Action** reported that one big company, employing 3,000 office workers, employed only 50 Jews while a second employed only 25 out of 1,000.

This is something our newly re-elected Gov. Dewey should be aroused over, considering his pious election night statement that we should all forget "partisanship" and "pull together." Add this to the fact that we have a state law, outlawing discrimination in employment—the Ives-Quinn Law—isn't it time for Dewey to get busy?

True, the Ives-Quinn Law says that a firm can only become liable under the law after a specific complaint has been lodged by an employe against a concern. However, the same law says that the state can **initiate** a probe where there is sufficient indication of discrimination. How about that, Mr. Dewey? You act, and we are sure there are enough democratic-minded employes among the 21 big insurance companies who would speak up on this shocking topic.

NAACP Hits Penn R.R. Jim Crow Policy

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK — The Pennsylvania Railroad for the second time in six weeks has been charged with racial discrimination in its employe relationships by the NAACP here this week.

The charges were placed before the State Commission Against Discrimination by attorneys of the association. The petition points out that Negro employes for the past six years have been forced to use an inconvenient locker room two blocks away across dangerous railroad tracks although there is one used by white workers adjacent to their place of work. Negro employes have been refused permission to use this room which is completely equipped, while theirs lacks both drinking fountain or

Charge Pennsy R.R. Gives White Vets 'Super Seniority'

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-15-46

NEW YORK — Super-seniority for white veterans is being used by the Pennsylvania Railroad to demote Negro mechanics, it was charged this week by six Negro employees of the company.

The complaint, filed with the State Commission Against Discrimination, stated that colored workers, promoted to the grade of mechanic after the creation of the wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee, are being pushed downward to make way for returning white servicemen.

The charge was filed by Marian Wynn Perry, assistant special counsel for the NAACP on behalf of the six men who have been employed by the railroad for periods ranging up to 20 years. Both the railroad and the Brotherhood of Railroad Shop Crafts of America were cited.

The complaint charges that until 1941, Negro employees were denied an opportunity for promotion to the positions of mechanic's helper or mechanic by the discriminatory practices of the company and the union.

After 1943, colored employees were permitted to qualify for promotion to mechanic. However, under an agreement between the union and company dated Jan. 24, 1945, the company has followed the policy of promoting white veterans who were hired many years after the complaints. They were given positions carrying greater seniority than Negro employees who have served the company for 10 or more years.

In view of a recent Supreme Court decision, the NAACP stated, there can be no justification for the company's contention that its discriminatory policy is required by law. The high court ruled that the GI Bill of Rights requires only that the returning vet be placed on the "escolator of seniority" at the place where he would have been had he not entered the armed services.

Discrimination Shown by N.Y. Companies in Hiring Practices

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-26-46

NEW YORK—Despite the activities of the State Commission Against Discrimination, New York insurance companies continue to discriminate against Jewish clerical workers and hire only a negligible number of colored employees, according to a recent survey conducted by the American Jewish Congress.

Information from personal managers who were interviewed for the survey, revealed that only 50 jobs out of a total employment of approximately 16,765, an average of 0.3%, were allotted to colored, roughly 10% of the population. About 650 out of some 15,545 employees were Jewish, an average of only 4.3%.

The survey also revealed that 43% of the personnel men thought the Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination law was a progressive step, while 26% regarded the law as unfavorable. While most of the companies attempted to cite reasons why their personnel forces included so few Jews, none explained why there was such an obvious exclusion of colored.

Awarded Lost Wages Due To Discrimination

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

NEW YORK — (ANP) — A victory against the Mark Rafalsky company in a complaint, charging discrimination in hiring because of color, was successfully concluded by the State Commission Against discrimination last week when the complainant, Kenneth Coward, received a week's pay in addition to an offer of the job which he had been refused. Fri. 7-5-46

Edward W. Edwards, acting chairman of SCAD, in announcing the victory, said an investigation showed that the Rafalsky company had been insistent upon compliance with the law against discrimination from the time of its enactment, but in spite of this policy one of their superintendents had violated the law in refusing a front elevator's job to Mr. Coward Instead of getting consideration for that job, he was offered a job as porter and service operator, Coward charged.

RACE NOTATION

When applying for the job, for which he had been sent by Local 32 B, Building Service Employes, AFL, Coward said he was told by the superintendent that the union had been asked to send a white operator and made a notation to that effect on the referral card.

Upon returning to the union office Coward was advised to file the complaint with SCAD which he made on April 18. Upon satisfactory settlement of the case, resulting in offer of the job, Coward declared that he had worked in New Jersey at a higher rate of pay and was not interested in changing positions. The company then agreed to pay the week's wages he would have received had he been given the work upon his application.

MEMORDANDUM ISSUED

Mark Rafalsky, director of the firm, said to be seriously concerned about the discrimination practiced by his subordinate last week issued a memorandum to all superintendents of the company's buildings. It read in part:

"When you interview or sign up prospective employees, you are not to ask or consider any questions as to race, color, creed or country of birth. No person who is otherwise fully qualified to fill an available posiiton shall be refused such position for any of the above mentioned reasons.

"In any case in the future, which should occur by reason of a superintendent violating the anti-discrimination law and disregarding our instructions contained in this notice, any money penalty awarded by the anti-discrimination commission will be charged against the wages of such superintendent.

Fri. 7-5-46

Vets Protest

Okla. City Postmaster Blocks Negro Carriers

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 8-10-.46

OKLAHOMA CITY — (ANP)— Charging that there has not been an examination held for postal clerks or carriers in the Oklahoma City post office for the past eight or ten years although there has been a turnover of 50 per cent in personnel, the provisional committee for veterans' affairs here sent a formal protest to Postmaster General Hannegan last week asking for a formal investigation.

The committee charged also that Negroes are employed only in the capacities of janitor, mail handlers and laborers.

CALLED VIOLATION

When members of the committee interviewed Oklahoma City Postmaster F. M. Shaw last May, pointing out that his methods constituted a breakdown in civil service procedure, the postmaster told them that "the time was not ripe" for the employment of Negroes in Oklahoma City post office in jobs other than what they now hold.

The committee pointed out to the postmaster that Negroes are employed as clerks and carriers all over the South.

Receiving no satisfaction from the postmaster after waiting for two months, the committee sent its protest to Washington. Their letter asked Hannegan to take necessary action to insure discontinuance of the discriminatory practices being followed.

Vets Charge Civil Service Wrecked To Save Jim Crow

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-24-46

OKLAHOMA CITY—(ANP) — The entire civil service procedure for hiring postal employees has been scrapped here in the attempt to keep Negroes from gaining employment, a veterans committee charged last week.

Asking Postmaster General Hannegan for a formal investigation, the veterans said that there had not been a postal clerk examination in 10 years even though there has been a 50% change in personnel. They charged that Negroes are employed only as janitors, mail handlers and laborers.

Two months ago, the veterans interviewed Oklahoma City Postmaster F. M. Shaw asking that the situation be corrected. The postmaster is reported to have replied that the time was "not yet ripe" for employing Negroes in the city postoffice.

Charges Bias In Canal Zone

Daily Worker
New York N.Y.

MEXICO CITY, April 12 (UP).—Racial discrimination against non-American workers in the Panama Canal Zone was charged today by Marcial Guevara, Panama's delegate to the third regional conference of the International Labor Office, in support of his resolution that the ILO investigate conditions there.

Sat 4-13-46

"Racial discrimination is an unsolved problem in the Canal Zone," Guevara said. "The working population in the Zone are victims of a wide unbalance between wages and the cost of living. A worker must pay about half of what he earns merely for a place to live, which affects his ability to buy proper foods.

"Workers who are not North Americans receive extremely low salaries. North Americans get their food at special stores and live in comfortable homes. Natives and persons of other nationalities must pay exorbitant prices for food and housing."

Suffer Untold Inconvenience, Humiliation

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta Ga.
Wed. 7-10-46

'Silver' Workers Forced To Give Longer Hours

By G. J. JAMIESON

PANAMA CITY—(ANP)—Over 1,000 colored workers of the naval supply depot on the west bank of the canal suffer untold inconvenience, humiliation, and longer working hours than white civilian employes, according to an expose published in "La Opinion," a political weekly here.

21c

In its issue of June 15, "La Opinion," clamoring for a change in policy, philosophy and working conditions under the gold and silver roll setup, brought to the fore the many acts of injustice, discrimination and segregation that lead to dissatisfaction among the hundreds of "alien" civilian workers.

INCONVENIENCE

Quitting time is 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon, but because one time-clock is placed at the disposal and for the exclusive use of "silver" or Negro workers, it takes another half hour before the hundreds of workers finish checking out. Placed in one of the six store houses to which the workers are assigned, all are required to gather at No. 2 store to punch the clock, load up in a convoy of open trucks, not matter the weather, then submit to a thorough searching by armed Marines at the gates.

"Gold" or white employes of the Navy depot do not submit to a like condition, "La Opinion" states. Time clocks for whites only are placed in every storehouse and comfortable buses assigned to them for transportation to their homes. White employes are not searched while riding in government appointed buses.

Wed. 7-10-46

MORE RACE BIAS

Color discrimination extends to the use of toilet facilities. Storehouse No. 31, it is said, has toilets for use of "Gold" only. Silver or Negro help are forced to walk a distance of 300 yards to "silver" toilets located in storehouse No. 2. Rest and wash rooms are provided for white women employed at the depot.

A mess hall for "whites only" is provided. Colored help must eat their lunch on the sidewalks or storehouse platforms.

This week colored employes of the Army and Navy were optimistic about a new change of policy due to the removal or whitewashing of "gold" and "silver" signs on the posts. It is believed that Canal zone "gods-that-be" are not impervious to the many investigators from Washington now visiting the Canal zone.

21c 1946

Pennsylvania

Negro Girl Job Applicants Get Brush-Off at Crown Can Plant

The Worker

PHILADELPHIA.—Crown Can is not shooting Negro women yet, as the Georgia lynchers did—they are just trying to starve them to death, according to a story of job discrimination told us by a young white woman:

Phila. 8-4-46

"I was just hired at Crown Can. There were forty or fifty Negro girls filing out application blanks in the office. When they called them in, it was in groups of twos and threes. Then they departed.

New York

"One white girl was interviewed at a time, and sent into the plant, to work. When I was called in, the interviewer had about 70 applications in his hand, many of whom were Negro girls who were ahead of me. I was immediately hired.

"They just aren't hiring Negro girls. The pay is 64 cents per hour to start, which is plenty low.

"Afterwards, I talked to some of the Negro girls. They had been told they would be called for openings. One Negro woman had been laid off in February. 'Lack of materials' they told her, saying she would be called back. She had been offered the night shift, which she couldn't take. Now they won't even take her back on night shft.

Phila. 8-4-46

"They are trying to get what Negro workers they have on to the night shift. This girl told me she had worked for Crown two years and two months—got 73 cent an hour.

N. Y.

"It makes you burn up, to see the Negro girls turned away. It shows how we need a state and federal FEPC. But meanwhile, organizatoins should force Crown Can to stop discriminaton now."

21c 1946
T. and N. O.

Negro Train Porters Relieved Of Positions

HOUSTON—Negro train porters on the T & NO railroad lines have been relieved of their 30-year old traditional jobs of throwing switches, flagging, giving signals and handling communication signals on the run to Lafayette, Louisiana, this week. A second white brakeman has been added on the run to perform the duties formerly done by the porters.

An Informer reporter contacted George Jessie, 102 Pennsylvania Avenue, and veteran train porter for 26 years on the T & NO and who threw some light on the situation. According to Mr. Jessie for the past 15 or 20 years white men have been trying to get the jobs that the Negro porters have been doing since there was a railroad, and until now, the railroad executives have been able to keep them out. So, on January 16, with the addition of a second brakeman, white, Negro porters' duties have been limited to the jobs of cleaning coaches, calling stations, and assisting with the mail handling when there is not sufficient help in the mail car.

Sidestep Means Demotion

There has been no salary cut, yet, but one is to be expected with the tremendous change in duties. Meanwhile, no action has been taken by the Colored Trainmen of America, at press time, however, it is felt by the porters that this side-step has been a decided demotion for the many veterans, and unless there is a cut in salary or change of title for the porters, there is no basis for action by the organization, but the CT of A is prepared to fight the issue should the aforementioned charges occur.

Five members of the CT of A had a recent conference with T. C. Montgomery, personnel manager of the Southern Pacific railroad lines, and Mr. Montgomery said that, the charge would not interfere with the porters, but a second brakeman would be added January 16, and was.

Negroes Have To Stand Up

Creating a further problem on the Negro accommodation situation, the white employees and the white military police locate themselves in the Negro section of the coach and prevent at least 16 Negroes from sitting. The whites claim they have to have somewhere to work. The following whites occupy positions in the Negro coach: 2 white conductors each takes a double seat, enough to accommodate four Negro passengers; 2 white military police, each takes a double seat enough to accommodate four Negro passengers; 1 train service agent, he takes a double seat, and when the Negroes have a car and a half, it is reported always crowded and never enough room. Negroes have to stand up.

Mr. Jessie further said he knew nothing about a policy of the railroad compelling white employees and military police to sit in the Negro coach as they could sit in the white section. Strong opinions are current that the whites only sit back with the Negroes to intimidate, lambast, meddle and push them around and all of the whites stick to the story that they have to have "somewhere to work."

From the labor angle, it is believed, that the new job was created because of discrimination in Negro labor. At first, the job paid poorly, giving the porters $40 to $60 per month, later, the pay was raised to $160 plus mileage, which amounts to about $212. With this wage, the duties of porters were enlarged to include those now being taken from them.

C. T. of A. To Investigate

The Informer interviewed Claude Lewis, General chairman of the Colored Train Porters of America at San Antonio, last Wednesday, and he stated he would have some information on the situation within a week. W. S. Ganfy, general secretary and H. Gentry, members of the CT of A, when contacted by Informer reporters, referred the reporter to Mr. Lewis. Efforts have also been made to contact T. C. Montgomery by the above men, but have not been successful. Only a Mr. Kelly and Mr. Stewart, general managers, have been contacted.

At press time, Mr. Lewis was reported in Houston and Informer reporters were making efforts to contact him for an interview.

Trainmen

Displacing Dining Car Waiters

Following in the footsteps of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, which several years ago replaced some of its colored waiters with white waitresses, the Pere Marquette Railroad has hired white waitresses on all dining cars between Detroit, Grand Rapids and Chicago as part of its "expansion program."

It is to be hoped that this policy does not spread to the other railroads of the country because it would mean the discharge of hundreds of Negro waiters.

If colored waitresses were being hired along with white waitresses there could be little quarrel with this policy, but on the Pere Marquette as on the New Haven, all of the waitresses are white.

This is a clear case of color discrimination and one wonders what the dining car unions can or will do about it, and how much support they will get from the other railroad unions if a fight is waged against the policy.

This is a concrete illustration of the need for a Federal Fair Employment Practices Commission.

If such a commission existed it could put a stop to this lily-white policy immediately.

For that matter so could a Michigan FEPC.

Rail Workers Seek Order to Stop Replacement by Whites

ST. LOUIS (ANP)—A Federal Court injunction will be sought by 128 colored employees of the Frisco Railroad to prevent being replaced by white members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, according to an announcement here last week.

The men were hired as porters, but had been doing brakemen's work along with porter duties. They were discharged when the brotherhood insisted that they stop doing the brakemen's work. A railroad spokesman says no other work is available for them.

The BRT, most powerful of railroad unions, does not permit colored workers to join its union. Its attempt to freeze these men out of jobs is being fought by a rival union, the Brotherhood of Trainmen, Brakemen, Porters, Switchmen, Firemen and Railway Employees.

Truman Asked to Save Jobs of Porters Threatened by Union

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—(ANP)—An appeal to President Truman to overrule a decision of the National Railroad Adjustment board, which threatens to replace 13,000 porter-brakemen with white brakemen, was made last week by Vernon C. Coffey, attorney of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, Brakemen, Porters, Switchmen, Firemen and Railway employees.

The decision, which comes as a result of the dispute between the white Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen's union and the St. Louis, San Francisco and Texas Railway company, was made in a test case which may influence railroad workers on roads throughout the country. Coffey declares that colored porters for more than 100 years have performed some brakeman duties receiving only the salary of porters.

The union, which is all-white, is fighting to use only union brakemen. Coffey's report to the President says objective of the complaint of white trainmen is to deprive colored trainmen of their jobs and their preferred standing with the Frisco railroad, and that members of the colored brotherhood are ineligible for membership in the white union.

Negro Trainmen To Fight Lily-White 'Job Snatch'

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Representatives of Negro trainmen from 11 states this week prepared to prevent the most extensive "job snatch" by Jim Crow rail unions in the nation's history.

At a meeting scheduled for the Paseo YMCA Branch here Wednesday by Vernon C. Coffey, general attorney of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, Brakemen, Porters, Switchmen, Firemen and Railway Employes, Inc., the representatives will take steps to save the jobs of 13,000 Negro train porters in this area.

The meeting is the direct result of a dispute between the white Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and both the St. Louis-San Francisco and San Francisco and Texas Railway companies, now on the calendar of the National Railroad Adjustment Board. Coffey states that the dispute, which has led to a strike vote by the white union on the grounds that Negro train porters on the two roads perform duties of brakemen, is a test case similar to the move by white trainmen of the Santa Fe to take over jobs now held by Negroes.

Plan Monopoly

Coffey points out, "If they can outflank our colored unions on any railroad in this area without stern opposition, the white Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen plans to take over all jobs now held by Negro porters who have been engaged in this work for more than 100 years just by raising a technicality over the word 'brakemen,' even though the name brakeman is not patented and Negro train porters have performed the duties of both brakeman and porter for more than a century on the railroads in this area."

Upon the refusal of members of President Truman's Emergency Board to permit the colored trainmen's union the right to intervene in the Frisco-union dispute, General Attorney Coffey assisted by Atty. Henry D. Espy of St. Louis, appealed directly to President Truman for relief since one of the duties of the Emergency Board is to make recommendations to the President in their report after making their investigation. It was pointed out to President Truman that his Emergency Board could not make a true report of all conditions **involving the strike on the Frisco unless all parties of interest could be heard, and that the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen will not accept Negro employes of the Frisco Railroad in its union.**

The white Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen also refuses to represent Negro employes of the Frisco Railroad in its complaint, though the white brotherhood is the bargaining agent for the Frisco employees.

Violate Court Ruling

This matter of appeal was referred to David K. Niles, administrative assistant to the President, who requested Coffey and Espy to furnish the President with a full and complete statement of all facts involved in the Frisco matter. Coffey informed the President and Miles that, the objective of complaint of white trainmen on Frisco Lines, is to deprive Negro trainmen of their jobs and preferred standing with the Frisco Railroad, and that the members of the Negro union were ineligible for membership in the white brotherhood because the by-laws and constitution of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen forbid Negroes from becoming members in this union.

The white union was attempting to represent this class of employes contrary to the recent Supreme Court decision in Stelle vs. Louisville and Nashville R.R., et al, in the colored gremen case. The Supreme Court ruled that, a labor organization chosen as the representative of a craft or class of employees is chosen to represent all the members of such craft or class regardless of their union affiliations or want of them, and that the ultimate purpose besind the word "porter" is to pay him less wages than a white brakeman.

Accuse Pennsy Of Race Bias

The Pennsylvania Railroad and the Brotherhood of Road Shop Crafts of America were yesterday charged with using super-seniority for white veterans to demote Negro employes from the grade of mechanic.

The charge was made in a complaint filed with the State Commission Against Discrimination by Marian Wynn Perry, assistant special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The action was taken in behalf

Porters' Jobs Threatened in Rail Dispute

NEW YORK—Negro train porters are threatened with loss of their jobs in any settlement of the railroad dispute between the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and other railway organizations, according to a telegram sent by A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, to President Truman.

Pointing out to Mr. Truman that Negro porters would be displaced from their jobs in any settlement of the threatened strike if the working rules asked by the trainmen and engineers are adopted, Mr. Randolph asked the chief executive to use the powers of his office to save the porters.

"As the Chief Executive of our country charged with the responsibility of protecting the interest of all of the people regardless of race, creed, color or national origin," Mr. Randolph's wire stated, "I am calling upon you to reject this national jim-crow full crew rule presented by A. E. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, on the grounds that it will constitute destruction of the property right or a job of the Negro train porters by an organization which denies this very group of workers, because of race and color, the right to become members of it."

of six Negro employes who have been employed by the company for 20 years, and who were first promoted after the creation of the wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee. New York, N. Y.

The complaint said that under an agreement between the union and company dated Jan. 24, 1945, the company has followed the policy of promoting white veterans who were hired many years after the complainants to positions denied to Negro employees with greater seniority. 6-3-46

Pennsylvania Railroad Charged With Job Bias

Daily World

NEW YORK—The Pennsylvania Railroad was charged today with using super-seniority for white veterans to demote Negro employees from the grade of mechanic, to which they were first promoted after the creation of the wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee. The charge was made in a complaint filed today with the State Commission against Discrimination by Marian Wynn Perry, Assistant Special Counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in behalf of six Negro employees of the company against the Railroad and the Brotherhood of Shop Crafts of America. 6-11-46

The complainants have been employed by the Railroad from periods ranging up to twenty years. Atlanta, Ga.

AGREEMENT CITED

The complaint charges that until 1941, Negro employees were denied an opportunity for promotion to the positions of mechanics helper or mechanics by the discriminatory practices of the company and the union. Subsequent to 1943, Negro employees of the company were permitted to qualify for promotion to mechanic. However, under an agreement between the union and the company dated January 24, 1945, the company has followed the policy of promoting white veterans who were hired many years after the complainants to positions carrying greater seniority than Negro employees who have served the company ten or more years. 6-11-46

In view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court to the effect that the GI Bill of Rights requires only that the returning veteran be placed on the 'escalator of seniority" at the place where he would have been had he not entered the armed services, there can be no justification for the company's contention that its discriminatory policy is required by law. 6-11-46

The NAACP is prepared to fight to maintain wartime gains which Negroes have made in the transportation industry against any attempts at wholesale demotions regardless of seniority rights.

Negroes Say Southern Railroads Have Job Bias, but Not Uniformly

The Times

Firemen Meeting in Alabama Report Hiring Policies Vary So That Morale Is Bad—Lawyer Blames Office Clerks

New York, N.Y. Thurs. 10-24-46

By GEORGE STREATOR

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 23—Evidence was offered today at the meeting of the Provisional Committee for the Negro Locomotive Firemen and Trainmen to show that patterns of discrimination varied among divisions of the same railroad and from yard to yard. The Southern railroads tend to "break down the morale of Negro employes with policies that change from day to day," it was stated.

A. R. Dozier and other firemen who have been employed by the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad for more than twenty-five years said that Negroes were never dispatched from Meridian, Miss., but were frequently sent out from Okolona, Miss., and Mobile, Ala., if no white fireman was available. They declared that new employes, if white, were always used in preference to Negroes with long and satisfactory working rcords.

They said that the general policy of their road was difficult to define. Their claims for nours and schedules were generally rejected without explanation for the purpose of breaking down morale, they alleged.

Office Clerks Are Blamed

Samuel H. Gellman of Richmond, Va., a white lawyer, said that the intimidation of Negroes was carried out by "office subordinates who work in the interest of the organized whitte firemen."

"The railroads want the roads to run," he said, "and are willing to employ Negroes, but the pressure comes from the prejudiced little fellow."

The introduction of Diesel engines by the Seaboard Air Line Railroad in Miami had been the means of reducing the numbers of Negro firemen, it was stated. Joseph Munlin, a fireman with top seniority, was said to have been forced out of his job in Miami, necessitating his going to the next nearest yard, more than 200 miles away.

In Augusta, Ga., in 1944 there were eighteen Negro firemen, all in regular service. Today, it was said, out of thirty-three jobs on the Augusta division, only ten were held by Negroes.

"In this instance, the Diesel is not the cause, but because of the agreement made to drive out Negro firemen," declared Benjamin F. McLaurin, international field organizer for the Provisional Committee.

Negro Press Is Criticized

Negro newspapers "in many instances, but The Chicago Defender and The Pittsburgh Courier in particular" were accused by Milton P. Webster, former member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, and first vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, of "betraying the interests of the race."

"As a rule we have come to discount almost anything said against us in the Negro press," he said.

Mr. Webster said he did not want to "pick a fight" with the CIO, but was asking its officials to "keep their noses out of the firemen's business unless they want to help us organize them." He said that he had "no prejudice against the CIO" but thought that Negroes were in error to think "a change of names will make a change of prejudices."

"The CIO is composed of the same kind of white people who have moved from AFL into the CIO without dropping a single prejudice or adding one. Jim Crow is a typical American institution. It is in unions just as it is in government."

A. Philip Randolph said that he also was troubled by "the trend towards totalitarianism" of Negro youth. He said they were guilty of "a disservice to the race" by their "deification of the state" and their "pursuit of an Alice-in-Wonderland foreign policy for this nation."

21c 1946

Utah

NEARLY ½ OF UTAH BOSSES ADMIT THEY DISCRIMINATE

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 11-7-46

By Federated Press

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 6.—Between one-half and one-third of Utah's employers and a roughly equivalent proportion of its workers are directly affected by discriminatory racial practices, according to voluntary replies to a questionnaire sent out by the State Senate committee to investigate discrimination against minorities.

In view of the fact that replies were voluntary, the rate of discrimination is probably actually higher but most answers were surprisingly frank. Sixty-nine of 169 employers who replied admitted they discriminate against Negroes, Mexicans, Japanese or other minorities in employment and advancement.

Furthermore, 47 of 162 employers said they were unwilling to grant colored citizens the same seniority rights as white citizens and 27 of 178 said they were unwilling to pay skills as white citizens. However, 98 of 160 said they would eliminate this discrimination voluntarily if their competitors did so.

Public places like hotels, restaurants and dance halls also admitted discrimination and 67 of 86 said they would stop if their competitors would.

The committee report thereupon recommended immediate enactment of a state fair employment practices law.

21c 1946 Virginia

Union Says Efficiency Rating Discriminatory

Journal & Guide 2-23-46

Norfolk, Va.

(Reprinted from Last Week's Late Edition)

PORTSMOUTH — The efficiency rating system as a basis for lay-offs at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard was condemned this week as an easy weapon of discrimination by W. D. Hand, president of Local 243, United Federal Workers of America (CIO).

It was brought out in a meeting of the local on Feb. 8 that shipfitters with more than 20 years experience have been discharged under this so-called "efficiency rating" system. Most of the veteran employees who have been laid off are colored.

Meanwhile, the Journal and Guide has consistently received reports to the effect that the efficiency rating system for separations at the yard has, on occasions, been used to eliminate colored workers who are undesired in certain shops.

CALL MASS MEETING

Another protest of the yard lay-off system comes this Friday night in the form of a protest mass meeting which is called by H. L. White, veteran federal employee who is acting manager of "the Public Relations Office," a crusading organ for the rights of colored workers.

The mass meeting, with special invitation to federal employees, is scheduled to be held at Portsmouth Auditorium, beginning at eight o'clock. The recent discharge of several colored skilled workers, who have from 10 to 25 years of seniority in the yard, is expected to be discussed in the meeting.

CHARGE UNFAIRNESS

In the meeting of Local 243, which has a membership of both white and colored yard employees, Hand gave an illustration of how the "efficiency rating system" may be used as a basis for forming the retention list.

An employee is given an efficiency rating "according to whim and fancy of his supervisor," he declared. The rating usually runs between 70 and 80 and to this is added one point for each year of service, said Hand.

To make sure that an undesired employee will be discharged first, it is merely necessary to rate his efficiency so low that no amount of points for years will save him, the union leader declared.

VETERANS AFFECTED

Veterans who left the yard to enter the armed forces and have been rehired are protected by law and cannot be discharged for one year. After that time they fare little better than civilians and veterans without previous yard experience, since they will then come under the "efficiency" system, Hand pointed out. 5-2-23-46

War service appointees hired after March, 1942, did not come under the Civil Service Act and are the first to be fired, the local members were told.

Hand stated that reductions in force should take place on a strict seniority basis. He cited the railroads and other industries as operating efficiently under the seniority system.

The president informed members that provisions for the reductions in force in federal shipyards on a seniority basis are included in a bill recently introduced in Congress (H. R. 2255), sponsored by Congressman DeLacy.

This bill has the support of United Federal Workers of America, Hand said.

DECLINE CONTINUES IN SERVANTS IN U. S.

New York Times

Survey Shows if Trend Keeps On for Generation There Will Be Only 1,000,000 Domestics

N. Y. N. Y.

If the pre-war and wartime decline of the ratio of servants to American families continues, in a generation there will be only a million servants for 40,000,000 families, according to a report issued yesterday by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

The report, based on an investigation of domestic service, noted that in 1900 there was an average of one servant for every eleven families, and in 1940, one for every seventeen families. In 1944 there was one servant for every twenty families. 5-29-46

The findings were published in a study, "Domestic Servants in the United States, 1900-1940," representing research by Dr. George J. Stigler for the National Bureau under a grant from the Maurice and Laura Falk Foundation of Pittsburgh. Monday.

The source of the "servant shortage," according to Dr. Stigler, who is Professor of Economics at the University of Minnesota, is the belief of American housewives that they should be able to hire a servant at about the wage their mothers paid. If higher wages were offered, the evidence suggests, he said, that there would be a substantial increase in the number of women seeking household positions.

Another attraction for recruits for housework would be shorter hours, according to the report. In 1939 half of the servants worked more than forty-eight hours and a quarter worked sixty or more hours a week.

The long-run decline in ratio of servants to families, which averaged more than a third between 1900 and 1940 and another fifth in the next four years, is attributable also to certain changes in the American way of life, said Dr. Stigler. Chief among these changes are declining size of the family; the concentration in cities where many services formerly performed by servants are now purchased from restaurants, laundries, apartment hotels and the like; and the greater use of mechanical appliances for washing, cooking and cleaning within the household.

The tripling of the proportion of married women who are working for wages has been only a minor offset to the changes, the report declared.

War's End Shows Domestic Service Is Still Shunned

Richmond Times Dispatch

Many women who have done their own housework for the past few years have been waiting for the day when they can get a maid again. But the war's end hasn't ended their difficulties. About one-fifth of the country's 2,000,000 household employees shifted to other occupations during the war. According to a Women's Bureau, United States Department of Labor survey of women workers in nine war production centers in 1944-45, three-fourths of the former domestics interviewed, who expected to work after the war, wished to continue in peacetime the type of work they had done during the war. 6-4-46 - Tue.

A much larger percentage of women in the better-paying factory and government jobs plan to continue in the same industry, than do those who were employed in the service industries (hotels, laundries, restaurants), where the pay was lower.

Before the war domestic employees were the lowest paid of all women workers in the United States, and many worked a 70-hour week, as compared with 40 to 48 hours worked by women in factories. Richmond, Va.

While pay has risen considerably for domestic workers and hours have been shortened somewhat during the war, there are still objections to housework since domestic employees are generally excluded from labor legislation and from the old-age and survivors insurance provisions of the Social Security Act.

The outlook is not entirely dark, however, for women who hope to hire a household worker. Many women questioned in the Women's Bureau survey, desire to return to employment in private homes. Some of their reasons follow:

"I can't stand on cement floors."

"I prefer cleaning in private homes, for I can arrange my own hours and run my home better."

"I can always save more when I work and sleep in."

"There will be few industrial jobs for colored people, so I will go back to cooking and cleaning."

These women speak for the minority, according to the Women's Bureau statistics. The other 75 per cent of these domestic workers will stay in factories and service jobs if they can.

Mrs. Roosevelt Says Servants Should Organize Profession

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Wed 6-19-46

CHICAGO-Ex-First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt declares that Negro women who work a domestic should organize to make work a highly specialized profession in an article in the July issue of Negro Digest.

"Domestic work, particularly in the case of Nego women has often been a low-paid occupation," Mrs. Roosevelt states. "I think Negro women should enter a union and make their household work a profession." 6-19-46

Pointing out the advantages of experience and skill in doing menial tasks, Mrs. Roosevelt urges special training courses for domestic workers and for their employers. Wed 6-19-46

"Certain standards of working rules could be set up," she says "however, I think employers probably need education a much as the employees in many cases.'

Household Help

The News and Courier Charleston, S.C.

Tues. 7-9-46

Before the war (and you know which war we mean) the aristocracy among the plantation people were the house servants. They were supposed to have an easier, a more comfortable and a more stimulating life than the field hands and other workers.

Not so today in the countryside around Charleston. Domestic service does not appeal to the rural negroes, though the steady infiltration of the country by city population in search of breathing space along with comfort has opened up a whole new demand for servants. Residents well able to afford servants report that they are unable to find them, or to keep them if they are fortunate enough to entice one into their employ. The wages are equal to and sometimes higher than the money domestic servants command in the city, though the service they render is not comparable. The operations of a field hand in the kitchen or dining room are awkward, inefficient and altogether inferior to the deft ministrations of a well-trained cook or maid.

Several factors enter into the situation, the most important one being the scarcity of manpower for farm help and the consequently high wages now being paid in the fields. A farm laborer can earn in three days more than the average housewife can afford to pay a servant for a seven-day week. The laborer then can take the rest of the week off to go fishing or otherwise divert himself or herself.

The prevalence of government allotments, of one sort or another, also makes the wages of domestic servants look like peanuts to the colored population. In many cases it pays the recipient to remain unemployed, and a new leisure class is being builded out of tax money. Taxes of course come from many sources, but among these sources are the very housewives who now are toiling in their own kitchens where once they had help more capable than themselves. The housewife (or her income-producing husband) pays a share of the federal allotment that enables prospective employes to draw compensation without working at all. The ironical twist of laboring while paying out money to the idle lacks humor only to the victims of the system. Tues. 7-9-46

Negro Cultural League Holds Tag Day Tomorrow

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

The Atlanta Police Commissioners have granted the Negro Cultural League, an organization for training domestic servants, permission to have a tag day here tomorrow. 7-16-46

The funds thus raised will be used to aid in securing property at 149-153 Auburn Ave., N. E., on which the Cultural League Center will be established. Ruby Blackburn, President, said the aim of the Center will be "to turn out better maids, cooks, laundresses and practical nurses."

the week

The Afro-American

As Simple as ABC

Baltimore, Md.

How're We Doing?

Sat. 9-14-46

By W. I. GIBSON

Something good CAN come out of Georgia.

In case you're skeptical, the views of W. W. Neal, an Atlanta advertising executive, expressed before the Georgia Press Association recently, should help to convince you.

Mr. Neal, whose topic, "Advertising Viewed as Useful to the South," may prove misleading, makes out a case for improved work and wage conditions in the South based upon economics, not upon race. He sees no good to come from attempts at mass selling if the masses don't have money to spend.

Here's what he had to say in brief:

"*What good does it do you when your wife or the women in your community can hire a maid for a 60-hour week for five or six dollars?*

"The single instance isn't important, but that figure is indicative of wages in a community and what can people — white or colored — buy when they have no more than that coming in?

"Aren't we — in all seriousness — far better off when the women in our community pay more for a maid and that maid and the others can buy more of the things you and your merchants have to sell?

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

No Race Issue

I'm not discussing a race issue. My interest is strictly economic. One of the best things that happened in the South, especially the deep South, during the war, was the increased income of our colored people.

"**About one-third of the people in Georgia and the South are colored. In the past, we have had to ignore, practically, that segment of our population, marketwise.** Sat. 9-14-46

"Here in Georgia we have about 3 million people. But a million of them were colored, so we had a market of only about 2 million. But let's look at the picture another way. Now with our million colored people enjoying the highest income they have ever known, we have increased the size of our market by 50 per cent — from 2 to 3 million.

BECAUSE of CHANGING TIMES the number of servants in the United States is gradually DECLINING, according to a recent study entitled "Domestic Servants in the United States, 1900-1940" by Dr. George J. Stigler.

Dr. Stigler prophesies that if the present trend CONTINUES there will be only one million servants for forty million American families within a generation. Sat. 6-8-46

In 1900, he reports, there was an average of one servant for every ELEVEN families.

In 1940 there was only one servant for every SEVENTEEN families, and by 1944, there was only one servant for every TWENTY families.

CHIEF causes of the servant shortage in this country are the declining size of American families, the concentration of more and more families in the CITIES, where many services formerly performed by servants are now purchased from restaurants, laundries, apartment hotels and the like; and the greater use of mechanical appliances for washing, cooking and cleaning within the household.

ANOTHER cause of the servant shortage is the unwillingness of many housewives to pay a PROPER WAGE, except on the very highest level of income.

Still another cause of the servant shortage is the LONG HOURS of work which has made such employment increasingly UNPOPULAR— many servants being forced to work from forty-eight to sixty hours weekly.

It all adds up to the likelihood that in a very few years the only people who will be hiring servants at decent wages and working conditions will be the very WELL-TO-DO families.

Dr. Stigler's findings should be of great IMPORTANCE to colored people because so large a proportion of the Negroes are employed as domestic servants, and at the present time there is no source of employment which seems to be absorbing those who are being DISPLACED.

As the number of servants in the country DECLINES, where are the Negroes who have been doing work as domestic servants going to find new employment, considering the probable increase in the competition for jobs?

Obviously, with only the well-to-do families ABLE to employ domestic servants, there is going to be a drastic weeding out of those servants who are not EQUIPPED to withstand the competition for the remaining places.

With LESS servants, there will have to be BETTER servants.

Those who are poorly trained, unkempt, slack, ignorant and INSOLENT will not be able to find employment with the type of people able to em-

ploy servants and PAY them properly.

Therefore if colored people are going to be able to HOLD their place in this field they will have to PREPARE themselves to serve properly high-class families.

NOBODY is going to pay good wages and offer attractive working conditions in the years to come for slovenly, ill-trained, semi-illiterate servants incapable of properly caring for homes and children, and ignorant of modern culinary art.

But the domestic servant who is neat, COURTEOUS, prompt and has acquired TRAINING in this field will not want for employment.

High school graduates trained in domestic science, the newer nutrition, modern child-care, interior decoration and at least one foreign language will find little difficulty in obtaining the CHOICE jobs in domestic service.

Although there is much FOOLISH snobbery about not working in someone else's kitchen or home, the fact remains that such employment does offer many opportunities and advantages with the type of employers who will be ABLE to employ servants in the FUTURE.

Wisdom dictates that we PREPARE to get the lion's share of the declining number of good jobs in this field.

VANISHING SERVANTS

Illustrated by HOLLOWAY

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 6-8-46

HOLLOWAY

Servant Problem Is Being Studied

News-Age-Herald

Women's National News Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—American women, trying to lick the servant problem, have not yet won back the 500,000 domestics who left their former pursuits for war jobs. The recent growth of schools for housework, the beginning of minimum standards of wages and hours, the bigger money and nicer rooms offered have not yet gone far enough to leap the worst hurdles: the social stigma and the lack of security in domestic employment.

A new study of the servant problem by the U. S. Women's Bureau shows that the latest tally of domestic workers in the nation is still 1,500,000—same as it was two years ago. Yet servants wages have stayed up. A sample checking of newspaper advertisements in more than 20 states shows little change in wages offered in 1946 over 1945. But the range of salary offered is probably as wide as in any field of women's employment.

In New York City, cooks and maids compete for jobs that pay from $28 a week to $200 a month. It is the same in Southern states where wages are much lower. In Richmond, the range for the sampling period was from $10 to $22.50 a week. Most popularly offered in large cities in the North is $100 a month or $25 a week. Yet in cities like San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, Miami, Baltimore, Boston, Detroit, Minneapolis, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Seattle, there are plenty of room-and-board jobs for $125 and $150 a month, or even higher.

In Mobile, Atlanta, Richmond, San Antonio and Nashville, from $15 to $20 a week is commonly offered, although some jobs offer only $10 a week.

In 1940 the median annual earnings of domestic workers in the country was $312, and in only six states was it more than $500.

Solution of the servant problem rests with women—the employer and the employed—according to the Women's Bureau. Housewives have to be educated on "better business methods" in hiring and directing help. Workers still have to develop satisfactory standards. Women's clubs need to do still more to sponsor studies of the problem, to set up training classes and to change the public attitude on the status of household workers.

In addition, the bureau has long fought for placing domestic workers under social security. Some steps toward establishing minimum standards have been taken. A domestic workers union (CIO) in Washington sets $25 for a 48-hour week, with time and a half or 65 cents an hour for overtime as its goal. Birmingham, Ala.

Most of the other minimum standard recommendations have come from committees sponsored by local YWCAs. Some of their recommendations include: Buffalo—$15 for a 50-hour week for live-in maids, $25 without room and board, 70 cents an hour for extra work. Syracuse standards are similar. Cincinnati recommended $16 a week for beginners, $25 for experienced workers, and a 48-hour week with time and a half; Chicago, $20 for live-in maids, 75 cents an hour for overtime, a 50-hour week; St. Louis $18 for a 50 to 54-hour week; Denver $10 to $15 for beginners, $15 to $25 for semi-skilled workers, $25 to $40 for skilled, a 40 to 48-hour week.

These recommended wages are minimums. Standards also include specifications for nice rooms, a certain number of legal holidays and vacations—usually one week after the first year, then two weeks.

The importance of giving a live-in maid a nice private room is testified in the number of advertisements in which this is stressed.

The Women's Bureau also reports a growing number of training classes for domestic workers. Some are run in vocational schools with federal support. Others are local projects. In one Milwaukee school a "bride's course" is given with the understanding that domestic workers and housewives will enroll, as well as brides. New York City has a course mainly directed at giving job skills to old women who need jobs. Sun. 11-24-46

Most interesting is a Philadelphia school run in an actual house. The trainees learn not only the skills but the "intangibles" of housework—attitudes toward the work, budgeting time, keeping to a schedule, etc. Students have a "test week," just as a student teacher does practice teaching before she is ready to face an employment agency and a real job.

The bureau also points to a growing centralization in home services through such agencies as Scientific Housekeeping, Inc., and Proxy Parents. Richmond has a commercial organization to which housewives make a monthly payment as guarantee that they will receive regular housecleaning services.

Attempt on Servant's Life Costs Town in Ala. $110,000

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Saturday 7-6-46

EUFAULA, Ala.—(ANP)—Because an attempt was made on the life of his colored servant (whose name was not given), when someone fired into her home recently, M. G. Lee, wealthy white leader of Cuthbert, Ga., revised his will and eliminated large bequests to local schools and the woman's club.

In his original will, Mr. Lee set aside $100,000 for the schools and $10,000 for the club. He made know his displeasure by advertising his action in a local paper. The servant had been in his employ for 18 years. 7-6-46 Saturday

She allegedly became the target of envy and criticism for her apparent "prosperity." Also, in a hot letter to the mayor, public officials, and "law-abiding" white citizens, Mr. Lee told them that the attempted "assassination" of his servant "cost your community $110,000."

21d 1946

Parable About A Man And A Cook

Age Herald

A man I know, head of a motherless household, with two small children, had rented a house in northern New England and was looking for domestics, who were especially hard to find for such a situation. He needed a cook, who would do some of the housework. Now, cooks have at this moment the position of a higher nobility in range of choice; few good cooks like additional housework; my friend, not being rich, could not outbid others; and no cook interviewed was willing to go to so isolated a spot, or assume such responsibility, until a handsome and grave colored woman said she would pray about it and later give him an answer.

A few days later she said she had prayed hard and "God had commanded her" to come and cook for him and the children and clean the downstairs rooms. My friend welcomed her with joy, tempered only by a fear that she might be a religious maniac.

Birmingham, Ala.

Not being acquainted with the lady, beyond her reputation as an excellent and dependable domestic, I cannot answer for her mental condition. But I find extraordinary sanity in her decision and her means of arriving at it. Stated in secular terms, in concentrated meditation, and a humble spirit, she wrestled with her conscience to find out what it was right for her to do. This led her to inquire in which of several alternative positions she was most needed. She concluded that she was most needed in a motherless home, in a place where help by the day was out of the question. So she went there. She made the same choice which a physician makes among the casualties of an accident: which is in most imminent need? Not which which will pay more or be the easiest operation.

In the present state of our civilization a worker (or employer) who asks himself such questions and regards the answers as a commandment of God may seem slightly touched, even to the beneficiaries. It is, however, a comment on the moral crisis of our civilization, if so simple an ethical attitude seems crazy. We only wish more people approached decisions by the method and in the spirit of my friends' cook.

Friday 5-31-46

It could be recommended, for instance, to the president of the United States. The process of concentrated meditation in an attitude of humility before the All-Good, which is prayer, would push out hurt personal feelings. One cannot pray for guidance in the

BY DOROTHY THOMPSON

angry mood of "I'll show them." Almost nothing that one does in that mood turns out well.

I do not think that if Mr. Truman had approached this country's greatest problem in the spirit of my friend's cook, he would have proposed to draft recalcitrant workers into the Army.

21d 1946

THE PERFECT SERVANT

Life Magazine 1-28-46

Sirs:

Mrs. Norstrand and her Sadie Buick (LIFE, Dec. 31) haven't a thing on me and the Southern mammy who helps me to operate my home like a business. She makes silver, floors and the entire seven rooms with two baths shine; but the brightest shine is her face, especially on the recent Sunday when I was ill and she came back on her Sunday off to cook the dinner and then refused pay "for helping sick folks." When hog-killing time comes round, she works like a man. . . .

She has a 12-acre farm of her own, always takes first prize with her canning and flowers at the county fair and buys war bonds with her wages, which are $5 per day. We love and respect Aunt Lula and she is happy. . . .

Chicago, Ill.

MRS. M. B. THOMAS

Winston-Salem, N.C.

New Law To Protect Domestics

People's voice New York, N.Y. Sat 4-13-46

Domestic workers are covered b social and labor legislation for th first time in the history of Ne York with the signing of the Con don bill by Governor Dewey, ex tending workmen's compensatio insurance to household employes.

Though the coverage is not a complete as that for industria workers, the Women's Trade Unio League, which has fought for thi measure for 10 years, regards it as "tremendous advance in the work ing conditions of domestic workers.

Under the new law domestic worl is declared "hazardous employment," and all domestics who work for the same employer 48 or more hours per week, in cities and villages of at least 40,000 population are covered. Sat 4-13-46

An important limitation of the law is that penal provisions cannot be enforced against household employers who do not insure their domestics. However, all civil remedies are available to domestic workers injured on their jobs.

A domestic worker may sue and the employer who neglects to carry workmen's compensation insurance is personally liable to pay compensation awarded by the courts. In addition, such an employer can also be sued further for "negligence," and a judgment issued for collection of the award.

The Domestic Workers' Union, an independent group, founded in Harlem in 1937 by Dora Johnson has been one of the important groups supporting legislation of this type.

Domestic Workers Win Compensation

afro-American Baltimore, Md. 4-27-46

NEW YORK—The first law in any State providing workman's compensation for the protection of domestic workers was adopted here recently by the State Legislature and is awaiting the signature of Governor Dewey to make the bill legal. 4-27-46

The new law provides the same protection for domestic workers as is now enjoyed by factory, industrial, unskilled and office workers, namely, payment of bills and fees for medical care, for injured at work and disabled.

Credit for this new law goes to the NAACP, the National Urban League, the New York State CIO and AF of L, the National Consumers League, the Women's Trade Union League and other progressive groups here.

SIGNS A CONTRACT.—The housemaid who opens the door at the home of Mrs. Ralph B. Bettman, right, 5822 Blackstone Ave., Chicago, isn't merely a housemaid—she is a contract employe. She is Lillie Mae Add, left, first household worker in the Chicago area to enter a written contract with an employer. Her duties, hours, rights and privileges are exactly specified in her contract which was negotiated by the Household Employers' league of the Y.W.C.A.—INS photo.

Wage, Hour Agreement For Chicago Maids

Pittsburg Courier Pittsburg, Pa.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Domestic employment ranks in this city re-ceived a streamline design thiswhen Lila Mae Add attractiv maid of Gary, Ind., signed a contract with her new employer Wednesday, relative to the above mentioned factors.

Both Miss Add and her new employer, Mrs. Ralph B. Blackstone, who hired her through the Household Employers League, said they are pleased about the new arrangements.

The incident caused quite a stir in household circles this week when the news invaded the ranks of the people who hold the strings on the domestic front and have been getting the services of hard working help at rock bottom wages. Sat 2-23-46

MRS. LITTLE, LEAGUE ORGANIZER

Mrs. Henry Little Jr., of 937 Winnetka, who organized the league, admitted she met with much opposition from North Shore employers. She is the wife of Rev. Henry Little Jr. Sat 2-23-46

She said, "Some housewives complained about the wage scale of from $20 to $25 weekly as too high and that no provision was made for apprentices, girls fresh from the farm and untrained.

"Some maids said the wage scale was too low, but were mollified when it was explained the scale was the minimum and not the maximum and that they can get whatever they can above the minimum. Many skilled maids are earning $40 per week."

Mrs. Little admitted that the plan isn't perfect but that the league hopes to reduce working hours from sixty hours to fifty-four hours and to provide for two weeks paid vacation instead of one.

One family of the opposing trend of thought on the matter said, they hired a maid and praised her work, but considered such a thing as overtime pay and a contract as entirely out of the question.

Household Workers Want Employers Examined, Too

afro-American Baltimore, Md.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Chief need for the bettering of household employer-employee relationships is education of both groups, YWCA delegates, here, heard Thursday. 3-16-46

Employers who insist upon a new maid having a physical examination, but expect her to not be properly protected from diseases in the family; who have little regard for her hours off-duty; who pay low wages and provide poor living accommodations were some of the complaints made by household employees. Sat.

On the other hand, employees who are untidy, who come to their jobs fatigued after late night hours, who are untrained and unreliable, were complained of by employers. 3-16-46

Designation Scored

Particularly distasteful to the employee is the term "maid," "servant," etc., said the young women now doing household work.

At their workshop, Tuesday, the group set up the following as standards to be aimed at by these workers:

Fifty-hour week to include two 5-hour days for employees living in, with working day to be completed not later than 8 p.m.;

Forty-eight-hour week to include six 8-hour days or five 8-hour and two 4-hour days as agreed upon by employer and employee;

Minimum wage of $15and room and board for 50-hour week for employee living in; $25 and 1 meal a day for 48-hour week for employee who does not live in; additional pay for extra work and longer hours involved on occasions such as the entertainment of guests with minimum rate of 70 cents an hour for overtime.

The standard also recommends a week's vacation with pay after a year's work and 2 weeks with pay after 2 or more years.

Household workers who attended the session pointed out that many women, aside from having to do household work, prefer that type of employment. There will be no lack of employees when the work is put on a respectable basis, they declared.

A UNIQUE PROJECT

Savannah, Ga. Tribune

The Atlanta school for training domestic servants is something unique. It is the first time persons engaged in doing domestic work have taken the initiative in doing something in an organized way to improve their efficiency. It seems to us that a plan of this sort is an answer to the problem of training individnals beyond school age and who are in service. While we believe that a high school education is the least qualification one should have to be an intelligent worker, even in domestic service, we have always hesitated to give agreement to any plan which would dilute the regular high school course in order to make domestic servants. The vocational courses usually offered in high schools often prove to be merely a smattering of the training and practice needed to make for efficiency. 1-19-46

The importance of such a project is appreciated when it is remembered that the movement of colleges a few years ago to prepare students for domestic work was not a howling success. Several factors operated against the movement: (1) Negroes did not attend college to become domestics. In a large sense, those who went to college represented a selected group to whom domestic service was not attractive: (2) the wages for domestic work were and still are in the low income brackets; (3) in most cases the relationships are anything but pleasant. The Negro domestic is usually a work horse whose welfare is considered only as far as it affects his ability to do his daily jobs. The admonition to dignify honest labor expresses a high ideal which only now and then some unusual person actually puts into practice. Much as people applaud such sentiments (savings), individuals just don't

choose to be satisfied with dignifying digging post-holes, especially if they must go to college to gain such proficiency. We are also aware that people who must do such service very often receive treatment at the hands of their employers, which makes it uninviting. Some weeks ago, Richmond housekeepers complained that they could not get colored girl graduates from college to accept domestic work at the prevailing wage, and threatened ,or suggested that foreigners be brought in who would work at very much lower wages. Householders are unwilling to pay larger wages to colored people who have the training necessary to render "adequately performed domestic work." Social restrictions also prevent Negro domestics from rising to the position of managers of households in which wages commensurate with their training are paid. With white servants, as well as with Negroes, domestic service "has a social stigma which places it far below most unskilled occupations in people's appreciation. For this reason it cannot offer any appeal to the ambition of those who want to make a career, and this affects the quality of the workers and their performance in a way which perpetuates the low status of the occupation." The Atlanta Plan by which such workers may be trained and through better working conditions and better pay may be bargained for, is an interesting project which deserves encouragement. 1-19-46

Want House Work Status Raised

Miss Alzada Mitchell of Summit, N.J., left, and Miss Doris Gollhardt of Buffalo, N.Y., white, work out plans to obtain support for their project—YWCA support for better household employer-employee relations.

Internation

LILLIE MAE ADD & EMPLOYER

One got security, the other got help.

One Woman's Union

While the pens of labor & management squiggled and flourished signatures to contracts affecting thousands of workers, the week's tiniest accord was signed in Chicago. Mrs. Ralph Bettman, a housewife, and Lillie Mae Add, her maid sat down to solve the labor problem in minuscule.

For Lillie Add, their contract (cancellable on a week's notice) provided $25 a week base pay, time and a half for all work over 60 hours, a furnished private room, nutritious diet, use of the telephone, sick leave, church time, uniforms, a week's vacation with pay. For Mrs. Bettman, it provided at least the promise of steady help. 2-25-46

Maid Signs Contract To Work 60-Hr. Week

Chicago's first housewife-maid contract was signed Wednesday by Miss Lillie Mae Add and her employer, Mrs. Ralph B. Bettman, 5822 Blackstone ave.

The contract which sets a floor under wages of $20 per week for 60 hours work, is called the first step in the effort to raise domestic workers to professional standing.

Both employer and employee expressed satisfaction with the unique formal agreement which was drawn up by the YWCA's Household Employers' League.

Likes Professional Standing

"This is much better than the old way of working," Miss Add stated, "and makes the domestic feel she is in a real profession."

"Lilie Mae wanted a job like the one I had to offer and I wanted a maid like Lilie Mae, so we're both happy," commented Mrs. Bettman. Sat 2-23-46

Miss Add, who obtained the job through the League three weeks ago, is guaranteed a base pay of $25 per week. She gets time-and-a-half for all over 60 hours a week.

Vacation Guaranteed

Wages as set by the League are $20 to $25 for a six day week. Actual working hours are described as those during which the worker is not free to follow her own pursuits.

The contract with Mrs. Bettman provides that the new maid shall have a private room, adequately furnished; adequate and nutritious diet; use of the telephone, sick leave, health examinations, time off for church; uniforms; and one week's vacation with pay after a year's employment.

Must 'Apply Herself'

The worker agrees to "apply herself" diligently during working hours, to take care of her room, and adapt herself to the customs, hours and tastes of the household.

When she is "on call" the maid is credited with one hour for each two hours she answers telephone and door bells. Three evening hours, when she must be available for emergencies, count as one working hour.

The contract also provides for periodic reevaluation of job and worker.

DOMESTICS' WORK CALLED DIGNIFIED

N.Y. Mg.

Public Urged to Change Its Attitude if Home Maker Shortage Is to Be Met

NEW YORK TIMES

The public must stop "looking down" on domestic service if more homemakers are to be obtained, Mrs. Gertrude M. Bolden, who supervises the New York City Department of Welfare homemakers service, declared yesterday at the Women's City Club in the Hotel New Weston. In concurring with the other Welfare Department representatives, Miss V. Charlotte Authier, director of the division of public assistance, on the need for additional homemakers to care for children during the temporary absence of a mother or to render old-age assistance, Mrs. Bolden appealed to the public for a changed attitude. W-J

Applicants interviewed recently, Mrs. Bolden emphasized, have considered the service a "step down" for them from war work. She called this a direct result of popular belief. 9-17-46

"If homemakers as such were held in greater repute, fewer homemakers would feel delicate about entering the service," she explained. Mrs. Bolden said the public should consider that "domestics have status and dignity."

In defining the accomplishments of the service, Miss Authier said that 646 children had been prevented from being placed in institutions since October through providing homemakers. She also advocated an expansion of its old-age assistance, now administered to 53,000. Asserting that many of these aged persons are chronically ill, she said that "homemakers' service would be less expensive than hospitalization."

With a total case load of 98,000 for the department, Miss Authier noted that during the last nine months they have been rejecting small families to concentrate on families of four members and up. She noted that housekeepers have been easier to get during the past two months.

Miss Authier pointed to the increased salary homemakers may look forward to, with an increased increment of $120 for those who have served one year by next September. Thus they will receive 51,560 instead of $1,440. "This year we have succeeded in securing appropirations for twenty-five more housekeepers," Miss Authier remarked, though their request was that 200 would not even be sufficient for the case load.

Mrs. Willard Parker, a former club board member, who presided, called on two directors of homemakers' services of private agencies, Miss Adelaide Werner of the Community Service Society and Miss Lina Cochran of the Children's Aid Society. Miss Cochran called homemakers' service "one of the growing programs in the whole country." She visualized it as a means to "cut down on a short-time foster-home program." With the current "emphasis on child-care," she defined it as assuming a new importance in bringing help to the community.

New Law Helps Domestic Workers

N.Y. Mirror 2-28-46

If the maid trips on a rug or the cook gets burned by the soup, they won't have to worry about medical care or compensation in New York major cities after Wednesday.

A new law effective that date requires employers of fulltime domestic workers to carry insurance.

The law applies in cities with 40,000 or more population. They are New York City, Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, Elmira, Jamestown, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Niagara Falls, Poughkeepsie, Rochester, Schenectady, Syracuse, Troy, Utica, White Plains, Yonkers.

21e 1946

Barnett Describes West Indian Labor Experiences

Atlanta World
Atlanta, Ga.

CHICAGO—(ANP—Claude A. Barnett, director of The Associated Negro Press and formerly a special investigator of problems confronting West Indian laborers in this country under the auspices of the United States Department of Agriculture, reviews the experiences and points out lessons gained from the employment of West Indians during the recent war years in the February issue of New Vistas magazine, an interracial digest. 2-9-46

The employment of approximately 50,000 workers from the islands had advantages for both the American Negro workers and the imported workers, Barnett points out. "Almost unanimously the domestic workers praised the coming of Jamaicans and Bahamians. Their reasons," he states, "were simple: Wages and working conditions were both improved by the advent of the foreigners. As the contrasts for foreign labor were made at higher figures, domestic wages were pegged at the same prices."

On the other hand, West Indian workers reaped certain benefits despite their exposure to American jim crow practices. "The War," he explains, "upset the economy of the islands, particularly the banana trade and other export commodities because of the lack of shipping. As a result, large scale unemployment existed and foodstuffs were at a premium if obtainable at all. The sending of 30,000 workers to the United States from Jamaica alone was a Godsend in that they sent home about $250,000 a week in savings, an amount that taxed the postal money order system." This money, Barnett observes, had farreaching social implications even to the point of raising the marriage rate there. 2-9-46

Eight States On Blacklist

Birmingham News Age Herald

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 16—(AP)—The Mexican Committee Against Racial Discrimination has adopted a resolution asking the government to blacklist eight states in the U. S. and prevent Mexican workers from going to the U. S. under work contracts. 2-17-46

The resolution said the following states discriminated against Mexican workers and paid wages which were not commensurate with their work: Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Montana, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The committee also asked that no worker be allowed to go to the United States unless adequate salary guarantees were given.

LABOR VIEW

By GEORGE McCRAY For ANP

The Informer Houston, Texas

More West Indian Labor Comes to U. S.

Sat. 10-26-46

According to latest reports over 57 million people are gainfully employed in these United States. This is pretty close to the maximum available supply of labor. Even this unprecedented figure is somewhat surprising once you consider the heavy college enrollment and the number of women who are taking time out for motherhood.

Ordinarily full employment should make the Negro worker very happy. It is the one thing that was to make his life endurable after the war. For even though Negroes were to be knocked out of many of their wartime job gains, the feeling was widespread that other jobs would be like a soft cushion to fall back on. And so the stockyards, the foundries, the laundries and cleaning and dying establishments have caught a falling Negro worker who otherwise would have had his economic brains pretty well scattered about the sidewalk.

But a new menace has arisen. The labor shortage in a few foundries and in domestic service is being met by the importation of more West Indian labor. Of course Negro West Indian labor is not new to the United States. Thousands of them are here now. They are largely employed in purely agricultural work, jobs that U. S. Negroes have been running away from even when bloodhounds were yapping at their heels. United States labor officials took the greatest care to bring in British West Indian workers who could be easily deported after the war.

The latest wave of West Indian labor is composed exclusively of Puerto Ricans, fellow citizens of the United States. They are coming in now by boat and air to work in domestic service and foundries or anywhere else they can find a job. Most of them are here to stay for as American citizens they can come and go as they please—like the Negroes in the Virgin Islands.

It is somewhat difficult to believe but these very same Puerto Ricans were not encouraged to come to the United States during the war because they could not be shipped back to the islands at will.

Negroes watching the importation of fair skinned Puerto Ricans whose Negro blood is pretty well covered up by Spanish and Indian, wonder if more low wage competition is being introduced into the United States. In a country where the color of a man's skin assumes the foolish importance it does here in the United States, Negroes are naturally suspicious of any group entering the country.

In domestic service the silly preference for fair skins has long offered a particular advantage to Filipinos, Chinese and Japanese, Mexicans and to persons whose European ancestry is more obvious.

Fortunately most Negro women in large cities don't want domestic work and if experience means anything, it won't be long before the Puerto Ricans will be looking for the easier work, the higher pay, the shorter hours, and the better working conditions to be found only in a factory. The time is fast approaching when the well-to-do and the not so well-to-do will have to wash their own diapers, scrub their own floors, and cook their own chow. Many of them are doing it now.

The Negro worker should remember as he sees Puerto Rican citizens entering the country, that all people are pretty much the same and want a better life.

House Servants Exported To U.S. From Puerto Rico

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-26-46

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—**This island is becoming a major source of cheap labor for America, it was revealed here last week, when domestics and other classes of labor were flown from here to Chicago by two employment agents from Illinois.**

Island citizens jammed the Castle Barton & Associates, Inc., when local women learned that they would be exported to the United States and work for $60 per month as maids. Here they get $20 per month.

In the last two weeks four plane loads of 75 girls and six men have gone north. The opinion here is that the plan will spread to other American cities.

Miserable Lot Of Cuban Workers Told To UPWA

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-7-46

Cuban packinghouse workers, employed only three to four months a year, are victims of near starvation under a system of seasonal unemployment, members of the United Packinghouse Workers' union in this country were told recently in a letter from a Cuban worker.

Union members believed that they had found some relief for seasonal unemployment when 5,000 workers of the Havana area obtained legislation whereby each packer must contribute 50 cents for each animal killed to a common fund for unemployment relief, the Cuban reported. But the packers falsified their accounts and when approached for the fund, merely laughed and said that they "hadn't killed many animals this year."

The union was then forced to appoint a commission with members stationed in all parts of the plant to check and recheck the number of animals slaughtered.

Supported by packer-dominated, perhaps packer-paid, government men, management encourages company unions, pits worker against worker, and indulges in lock-outs, such as the recent one at National Slaughter House, the letter continues. This vicious anti-labor policy is not in line with the progressivism of President Grau, the Cuban asserts. He concludes his report to the UPWA Pan American Commission by saying that "many of the packing houses are in the hands of Armour and Swift, although they are conducted under other firm names."

Exploitation In U.S.

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-30-46

Low-paid Puerto Rican workers, imported to this country to pull up the slack in the dwindling domestic labor market, charged here this week they were being exploited in an international labor deal involving more than 300 workers.

The charges were placed against their white employers, the Puerto Rican Department of Labor, and specifically against Castle, Barton and Associates Inc., private Chicago employment agency.

Picketing the employment agency Thursday, the workers, mostly women, protested that certain provisions in a binding labor contract between their government's labor department and Castle, Barton had been violated.

These violations were listed as overtime without compensation, drastic deductions in their pay and a sharp reduction in time off.

Speaking for the domestic servants, Muna Munoz, daughter of Marion Munoz, president of the Puerto Rican Senate and leader of the Popular Party of Puerto Rico, declared:

"The workers, mostly girls employed as domestics either for private families or institutions, work from 10 to 15 hours a day without overtime pay. They were promised a full day off a week; only a half day off is granted."

Of the employee's monthly earnings of $60, she said, $10 is deducted to cover transportation expenses to Chicago until $150 is paid, and $8.33 is withheld in escrow by Castle, Barton until expiration of the one year contract or cessation of employment.

Graduate student at the University of Chicago, Miss Munoz further stated the workers were flown here in cargo planes and charged the full passenger rate. White Puerto Ricans were brought north, blacks were shipped south.

Theorizing that a daring scheme is underway to reduce the domestic wage scale to an all time low, Miss Munoz declared the Puerto Ricans were imported to the United States "because they work cheaper than American domestics."

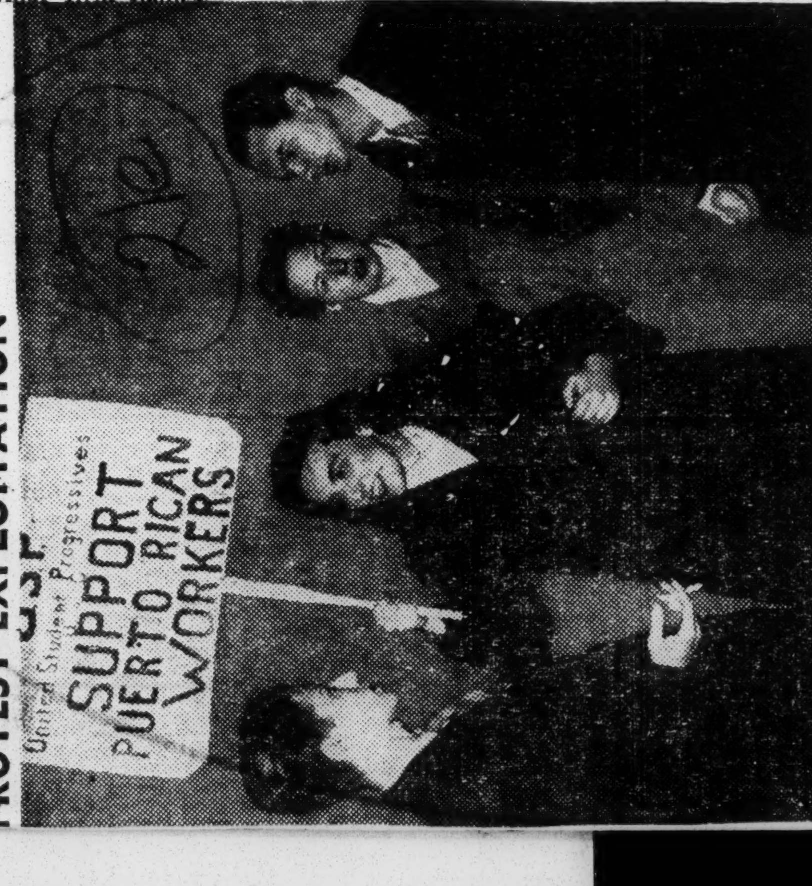
"The Puerto Rican labor department has been misguided, and it was too hasty in making such a contract with Castle, Barton," she said.

Although protests have been forwarded to the Puerto Rican department of labor, no immediate action has been taken, the workers reported. The department's only reply was Castle, Barton would be notified.

E. W. Moore, an associate of Castle, Barton, emphatically denied his agency or employers of the workers had violated any provisions in the labor contract.

He did admit, however, Puerto Ricans were imported here to alleviate the shortage in the domestic situation. As to the deductions, the workers were informed they were to be made, he said.

PROTEST EXPLOITATION



Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-30-46

Claiming exploitation of more than 300 lowly-paid Puerto Rican workers, imported to U.S. to alleviate shortage in dwindling domestic labor market, this group lead protesting picket line in front of Castle, Barton and Associates Inc., 220 S. State st., Chicago, private employment agency which hired workers in deal with Puerto Rican Department of Labor. From left to right are Hector Alvarez, Muno Munoz, daughter of one of top political leaders of Puerto Rico; Jane Bissel, and Rafael Castrillo, all students of University of Chicago.—Defender Photo by Scott Tyler.

Puerto Ricans Charge

Chicago U. Students Protest Puerto Ricans' Exploitation

The Afro-American

CHICAGO (ANP)—University of Chicago students lodged a sharp portest last week against the wholesale exploitation of 360 male and female Puerto Rican workers, recently flown into this area from their native land, in what is termed a conspiracy to reduce wages for domestic servants and common laborers.

Backed by the United Student Progressives, Miss Muna Monoz-Lee, a Puerto Rican graduate student in anthropology, and daughter of Luis Monoz-Marin, president of the Puerto Rican Senate, lead the investigation into conditions under which her countrymen must work here.

Female workers are bound by contract with the employment agency of Castle, Barton and Associates, which charges the Puerto Ricans a $100 fee for a $60-a-month job, for which American domestics receive $120, plus room and board. Another contract is also signed with the employer.

Cuts for Everybody

"We tell the employer not to pay a higher wage even if they want to," explained one of the agency's officials. "Gifts, clothing, Christmas presents are all right. But we insist that they stick to the contract as far as salary is concerned." Sat. 12-21-46

Deductions totalling $18.33 are taken out of the Puerto Rican's pay: the employer is allowed $10 each month until the $105 transportation has been paid; and the employment agency takes $8.33 monthly until a $100 fee has been received. In addition, the employer must also pay the employment agency $250 for providing the servant. Baltimore, Md.

21f 1946

2 Bills Proposed In Assembly To Cut Racial Discrimination

Courier-Journal

Domestics And Farm Labor Would Be Aided

1-24-46

By ROBERT C. DOTY.
The Courier-Journal Frankfort Bureau.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 23.—Two bills seeking to reduce discrimination against Negroes, embodying recommendations of the Kentucky Commission On Negro Affairs, were introduced in the House of Representatives today by Representative Charles W. Anderson, Jr., Louisville Republican, lone Negro member of the Assembly.

One measure would prohibit discrimination and intimidation for race or color in employment under contracts for public buildings or public works in the state; the other would change the wording of the State Wages and Hours Law to include domestic servants and farm laborers in its provisions.

Representative Anderson was a member of the 12-man commission of six Negroes and six whites set up 15 months ago by Republican Governor Simeon Willis to study all factors of the problem of racial discrimination and make recommendations to the executive and legislative branches. Of 27 concrete proposals advanced in the commission's report, the bills introduced today are the first to come before the Legislature.

The employment bill provides that every contractor dealing with the State will be required to agree that neither he nor—any of his sub-contractors or agents shall by reason of race or color, discriminate against any citizen of the State of Kentucky who is qualified to perform the work to which the employment relates."

Louisville, Ky.

Another section prohibits holders of State contracts to discrimininate against or intimidate any employee once hired on account of race or color.

For a first offense against these provisions, a contractor is subject to deductions in payments from the State of $10 for each person for each day during which, discrimination or intimidation was used and that his entire contract shall be canceled and all payments from the State shall be withheld for any subsequent violation of the bill's provisions.

Would Aid Domestics.

The other measure seeks to improve the lot of domestic servants, many of whom are Negroes, by striking from the section of the Wages and Hours Act defining an "occupation" the words "but does not include domestic service in the home of the employer or labor on a farm" and substituting the specific provision" and the same to include labor on a farm."

With the exceptions listed in the old wording of the section, domestice servants and farm laborers had no right under the act and could be paid any wage they would accept for any number of hours of work. 1-24-46

Could Take Legal Action.

Anderson's bill would make the two classes eligible for relief under the section which provides that, upon petition of 50 or more Kentucky residents, the commissioner of industrial relations shall make an investigation of wages and hours in any occupation and, if the evidence warrants, may request the Governor to appoint a wage board of three disinterested persons, three representing employers and three representing employees, to rule upon and administer a code of minimum wages and maximum hours.

In addition, the two classes would be eligible for the other forms of redress and legal action against unfair wages and oppressive hours that the act confers.

21f 1946

FEPO

ALDERMEN PASS 'FAIR HIRING' BILL INVOLVING CHARTER AS PICKETS ASK ONE WITH TEETH

Calls for Amendment of Charter to Outlaw Race Discrimination in Employing

St. Louis Mo. Friday 3-29-46

(PICTURE ON PAGE ELEVEN)

Members of the Fair Employment Practices Ordinance Committee headed by Chairman Thomas Gates picketed the City Hall last Friday in a demonstration. The action was caused by what the committee termed apparent insincerity on the part of Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann and the Board of Aldermen to meet the issue. The FEPO Committee contended that the substitute proposal for Alderman Caston's bill No. 242, an amendment to the city charter, bill No. 400, is evasive and does not meet the issue squarely or assure protection of minorities from discrimination in employment.

Some of the signs carried by the pickets read:

"Where is the bill the Mayor's Race Relations Committee is Writing?"

"FEPC helped win the war. FEPO will help keep the peace."

Chicago and New York have FEPO: Why not St. Louis."

"Bill 242 not Bill 40."

Pass Bill 400 3-29-46

While the group was marching in front of the City Hall, the Aldermen were proceeding in their weekly meeting to unanimously adopt Bill 400. The measure provides for submission to the voters at the August primary election of a proposal to amend the City Charter to prohibit discrimination in the appointment or advancement of city employees under the Civil Service System because of race, color or creed.

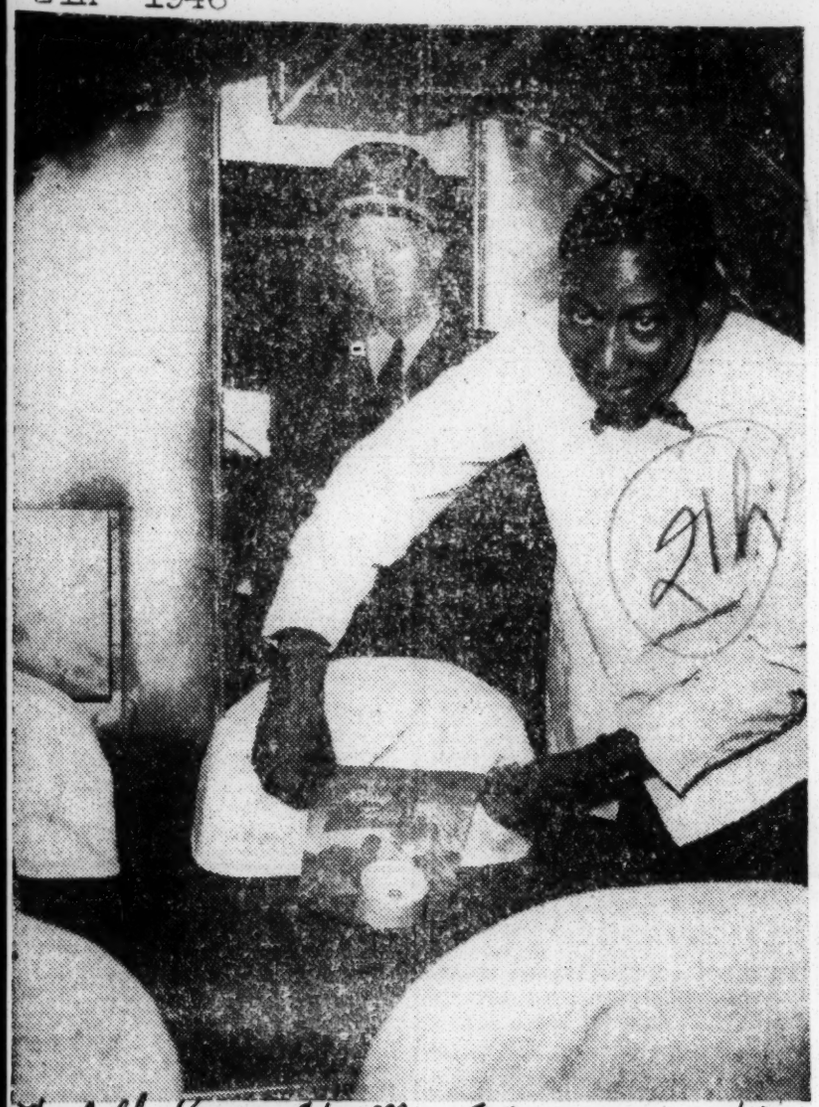
The FEPO committee contends that the charter proposal was actuated to prevent the Aldermen from being put on the spot having to vote for the more stringent Bill 242 which applies to employment in all concerns in St. Louis. They argue that the provisions of the plan advanced by the Aldermen is supposedly taken care of by the merit system.

Saint Louis Argus

Bill 242 was declared illegal in an opinion handed down by Associate City Counselor Charles J. Dolan. It had been stated that the Mayor's Interracial Committee was working on the measure to reconstruct it to avoid the points that would conflict with the law, but the proposal for the charter change was offered instead.

Mo.

Mayor Kaufmann when asked campaign for Fair Employment over the passage of Bill No. 400. It is not satisfied with empty gestures. The campaign has, in fact, merely begun. The Committee will press for the adoption of Bill No. 242 until the Board of Aldermen adjourn. If it is not adopted, the committee will write its own Bill, and introduce it before the Board of Aldermen by use of the initiative. The committee will carry this fight to its logical end—victory."



The Call Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 10-25-46

FIRST NEGRO AIR STEWARD.—Charles W. L. Jones, first Negro steward to fly with Flying Tiger Transport, Inc., recently made a tour of the United States as steward for Satchel Paige and his Negro all-star baseball team. Paige accompanied Bob Feller and his team of top-notch ball players on the tour. Born in Pensacola, Fla., and now a resident of Los Angeles, Jones served as first lieutenant in the infantry, from 1940 to 1944. He served in the African, Sudan, Bouganville and Burma campaigns. Jones, who won a scholarship to Cornell, attended that university for two years, majoring in history and minoring in law

21h 1946

Alabama

Southern Firm, Pioneering In Better Race Relations, Finds Fair Employment Principle Pays

White, Miami, Fla.

(By J. J. ISRAEL Sat.
(Special to The EAGLE)

SILURIA, Ala. (SPA) — That the South is the nation's number one economic problem is still true. But day by day, here and there, solutions are being found to cure many ills. In this small town, located on the Montgomery highway some 25 miles from Birmingham, industry has bettering race relations, providing better living conditions, making opportunities to work and to be happy for some 50 families.

The Imperial Spreads, Inc., with J. T. Philips as chairman of the board, is working at top speed to produce some of the nation's best chenille bed spreads. But more than the making of spreads this kindly efficient, white business man has for a number of years worked for the "problem" of lifting the standards of the community. Here the wages are higher, working conditions ideal, job opportunities better than in other plants. 8-3-46

The Imperial Spreads employs 50 women and men in every skill necessary for the manufacture of its fine spreads that cover America's finest beds. Only three white persons are found in the busy plant, among them is Mrs. A. R. Busby, who trains women in the highly skilled art of operating the eight to 16 needle machines necessary in the making of spreads. She is high in her praise of the workers and their cooperative ability. Saturday

Out of this small community that is two-third Negro populated, Phillips selected Rev. Thos. G. Fore as personnel director. Rev. Fore employs all of the Negro help and supervises their work. In the community Rev. Fore has organized the Boy Scouts a YMCA, and is pastor

Among the plant inspectors are Harriet C. White, Virginia Williams, Effie White, Gladys Elliot and Corrine Arrington. Negro supervisors and foremen direct the technical and skilled workers. One woman is said to turn out some 50 spreads a day, a record for the nation. Here in Siluria, Alabama, thanks to Phillips' herence to fair employment principles, most of the Negro families are home owners. Their pay scale is the same as for whites in a related plant that is operated with white personnel in the making of shirts. Employes are given a vacation with pay and also enjoy a health fund.

Other plants are operated in Georgia and Tennessee and all of the products are distributed from their New York general office.

At Goodyear Plant

Negroes Prove Ability To Handle Skilled Jobs

LOS ANGELES—Negro employes at the Los Angeles plant of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company have proven their capabilities in handling responsible skilled and semi-skilled jobs throughout the plant since they were first hired during the war years. So declared Lloyd Fuller, employment manager, in answer to inquiries made by The Courier's Coast Bureau last week.

To date, more than 200 colored men and women are working in the factory, which, prior to the war, refused to hire persons other than Caucasians.

Backed by pressure from the Urban League and the NAACP, the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee charged the company to hire Negroes during the war or forfeit Government contracts.

COMPANY'S FEARS DISPROVED

Company executives said such integration would not be a success as they feared disturbances would result. They opined that separate public facilities might even be necessary.

To the contrary, only a scattered few instances of racial difficulties have resulted, Fuller said.

At the peak of wartime production, Goodyear employed over 500 Negro workers, both men and women. When mass lay-offs resulted at the termination of hostilities, nearly half of the colored employes were retained by the company, it was revealed.

WILL NOT DISCRIMINATE

The plant is still in the process of completing its reconversion program which has been somewhat hampered by strikes throughout the country.

Fuller predicted that Negro workmen would be maintained permanently and would play an important part in post-war production plans.

He added there would be no discrimination shown in the hiring of minority group employes.

San Bernardino gets first Negro mailman

SAN BERNARDINO—San Bernardino's first Negro mailman is Irving T. Butts, 194 Bissel st., a World War II veteran.

COAST RADIO FIRM HIRES TWO MORE WOMEN CLERKS

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—With the hiring of two women clerical workers by Mackay Radio last week, discrimination in the international communications received a setback, Ed Barlow, secretary of CIO Cable Workers Local 9, reported.

Four Named Postal Supervisors

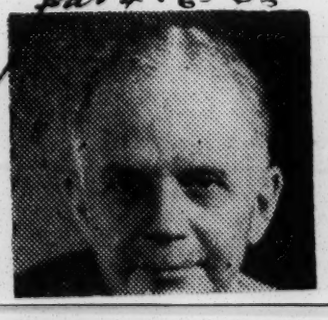
Less than 24 hours after he had been appointed Los Angeles postmaster, Michael D. Fanning appointed these four men as supervisors in the postoffice. They are, left to right, Lee J. Hicks, Thomas C. Smith, Mr. Fanning, James C. Moore and Jesse L. Robinson. All four are veterans.

Walter White

People, Politics And Places

Uncle Toms Need Not Apply

IS THERE among the half dozen or so readers of this column a young woman — or young man—who would like to be a script reader in one of the Hollywood studios? The qualifications are these: she—or he—should be at least a high school graduate and preferably a college graduate; a well read person of sound judgment who is neither an Uncle Tom nor a professional belligerent. The pay is good and the possibilities also good.



Here is how the opening came about. One day recently I was talking in Hollywood with this producer. He told me of the sudden awakening he had experienced a short while before when, having actively backed various liberal causes and contributed generously to others, he decided to look into the employment practices of his own organization.

Ridicules Attitude

HE CALLED in the head of the stenographic department, a woman whom he believed to be intelligent, and asked her if she ever drew the color line in employing stenographers. She promptly and indignantly answered in the negative. "Then why are there no Negro stenographers here?" She replied in amazement, "Do you mean to say that you **want** me to employ Negro girls?" When he answered her firmly that he did she replied, "But, you know the weather is quite warm here in Hollywood and most colored girls are not too careful about their toilet—the white girls wouldn't want to work in the same room with a girl who has offensive body odors."

Fortunately, this producer—one of the most important figures in Hollywood—knew colored people and was able to tell her how prejudiced and ridiculous her attitude is.

A New Practice

BUT THE EXPERIENCE caused this producer to decide that merely putting in a stenographer wasn't enough. Although he has many hundreds of applications from highly qualified white young men and women for the choice of job of script reader, he wants to inaugurate in Hollywood a practice which he hopes will spread to other studios of starting at least one colored person in the script reading department with advancement as rapid as industry and merit warrant.

So if you feel that you can fill the job and are interested, please write this columnist at 20 West 40th Street, New York 18, New York. Because my mail already is terribly heavy, please don't bother to write unless you do have the qualifications. I will pass on the best of the letters I receive to this producer and we shall see what happens.

New Postmaster Upgrades Four At L.A. Post Office

LOS ANGELES—Four new Negro supervisors were named in the Los Angeles post office by Postmaster Michael D. Fanning this week, just 24 hours after his appointment was confirmed by the U. S. Senate.

Those upgraded were Lee J. Hicks, an infantry captain in the 92nd Division in World War I; Thomas C. Smith, also a 92nd veteran; James C. Moore, and Jesse L. Robinson, former officer of the National Postal Alliance.

These appointments give the Los Angeles post office seven Negro supervisors, placing the city third in this respect. New York has 24 and Chicago has 10.

No Discrimination

For a number of years Negroes here have requested that a colored supervisor be appointed at the huge Terminal Annex Post Office.

Roosevelt-Truman as well as the Roos
Southern C ticket for Southern
elected secretary of 1943 he was elected
Committee, and a the Los Angeles Co
unanimously elect- cratic Central Comm
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editor, Postmaster Recalling his many
In the newspaper "Apparently members of the Ne-
life as it actually gro race have not received fair
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Besides having employees.
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working conditions religious or political

Former Journalist

Postmaster Fanning has spent many years in the newspaper profession, both in the middle west and in Southern California. He entered politics as campaign manager for Will Rogers Jr., when the latter was shown a marked ability, Fanning has served as the 1944, Fanning managed the re-elec- worker-management tion of Sen. Sheridan Downey as

General Motors Ends Job Ban on Colored Workers

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-20-46

LOS ANGELES—Barriers which prevented the hiring of Negro personnel in the production department of the South Gate branch of General Motors, were removed last week, and Negro workers were hired. United Automobile Workers' local chapter, 216, has for a long time, demanded that the South Gate branch abolish its practice of discriminatory hiring, but to no avail, union officials said. The answer given to all their demands by the plant's personnel department, was that no qualified workers were available, among the Negro applicants.

Informed of the situation, Walter P. Reuther, president of the United Automobile Workers Union, CIO, wrote the management of the South Gate plant. He branded as false, the allegation made by the personnel department that no qualified Negro workers were available. He termed this stand as a subterfuge to cover up a hiring policy which discriminated against Negroes.

Reuther threatened the General Motors Corporation with action by the international union, and other agencies, unless a change of policy was immediately effected. Reuther's letter to the South Gate plant officials was reportedly submitted June 28.

July 3, it is reported, ten men were called to the plant for physical examinations. The following Monday, they were at work. Eight more were given jobs on Tuesday.

According to Eugene Judd, secretary of the local chapter of the UAW, no discrimination was evident as the men were assigned to various jobs. Among the jobs given them were positions as mechanics helpers, pipe-fitters helpers, janitors and unloaders.

CONNECTICUT JOBS OPEN TO NEGROES

Times
New York 7/26

Interracial Commission Finds Much Progress in Fair Play for Minority Groups

Friday 7-26-46

BY GEORGE STREATOR

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HARTFORD, Conn., July 25 — Considerable progress has been made in Connecticut "in educating the public mind for fair play," the executives of the State Interracial Commission said today.

In a discussion of the biennial report required by law to be submitted to Governor Raymond E. Baldwin, with its "recommendations for the removal of such injustices as it may find to exist," Richard A. Stimpson, research associate for the commission, stated that the white-collar field in Connecticut, at long last, had been opened to minority groups.

But there were many opportunities without trained persons, he said, with many employers having openings for stenographers regardless of race, creed or color, but with the commission being unable to fill the jobs. However, the commission listed some secretarial schools in Danbury, Hartford, Ansonia, Stamford, Waterbury and New Haven as discouraging admission to Negro students.

It is generally felt that trade unions in the State are becoming increasingly liberal towards Negroes and other minorities, but the commission believes that Negro youths are not making the most of their opportunities for training.

"Various opinions can be given about the reasons for this failure of egro youths to prepare themselves vocationally," he said. "The chief reason probably has been their uncertainty about obtaining jobs in their trades after they have finished their courses.

War-Job Effect Awaited

"Whether the widened range of jobs opened to Negroes during the war will affect their enrollment in vocational and technical schools in the immediate future remains to be seen."

7-26-46 Friday

Frank T. Simpson, a Negro, is special assistant to the Governor and chief of staff of the commission. He is reported to hold the opinion that wider opportunities for industrial education are essential to the survival of the Negro in Connecticut.

Only sixteen Negroes out of a total of 1,342 youths enrolled in 1945 for training in vocational and trade schools, it was stated. New Haven, with seven, headed the list. Hence the commission, which is instructed to "investigate the possibilities of affording equal opportunity of profitable employment to all persons with particular reference to job training and placement," was gravely concerned, it was said.

Since 1940, Negroes have been listed in the State for the first time as chemists, metallurgists, civil and mechanical engineers and office machine operators, the report showed. It was declared that no progress had been reported in placing Negroes as railroad and bus conductors, brakemen and switchmen.

Times

Hartford, which had 7,090 Negroes in 1940, is believed to have about 10,000 today. The population of the city was 162,267 in that year, and probably is 200,000 now, it is believed.

There are five Negroes on the police force. There is one Negro policewoman. The city now employs eight Negro school teachers. The cities of Waterbury and Ansonia also employ Negro policemen.

G. Fox and Company, founder here ninety-nine years ago, one of the largest stores of its kind between New York and Boston, first employed Negro women as clerks three years ago; today "a considerable number" of clerks and inspector-wrappers are Negroes.

Dr. Allen Jackson, Negro physician, is a native of Washington, D. C., but has practiced here for twenty years. He is head of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He believes that Negroes in Hartford will—with the assistance of organized labor—elect a city alderman at the next general election.

He said that Negroes had been able to keep employment in many plants, that 500 or more Negroes were now employed by Pratt and Whitney, aircraft engine manufacturers, and that heavy industry generally continued to employ Negroes.

7-26-46 Friday

Negro citizens, generally, were critical of insurance companies over "non-employment of Negroes except as porters, messengers and runners."

Times

One of the oldest citizens of Hartford is R. A. Lawson, a teacher of music. His pupils have been drawn from all races and classes. Mr. Lawson was graduated from Fisk University in Nashville and came here with his wife, a schoolmate, fifty years ago. Their son is now director of music at Howard University, Washington, D. C.

Trinity College will accept its first Negro student this year. It was made known that Negroes have for many years been accepted for nurse training at St. Francis and St. Joseph Hospitals here. The Yale School of Nursing at New Haven had two Negro students last year.

Connecticut Negroes in more white-collar jobs

The Tribune Los Angeles, Cal.
Sat. 8-31-46

HARTFORD, Conn.—White-collar jobs have finally been opened to Negroes and other minority groups in Connecticut, it is reported in the State Interracial Commission's biennial report which was filed last week with Gov. Raymond E. Baldwin.

Discussing the report, Gov. Baldwin disclosed that since 1940, Connecticut Negroes have for the first time been found to be working as chemists, metallurgists, civil and mechanical engineers, and office machine operators. With so many opportunities now open for trained Negroes, the Commission is unable to fill the jobs.

However, the governor, learning that secretarial schools in Danbury, Hartford, Ansonia, Stamford, Waterbury, and New Haven are still discouraging Negro applicants, urged "removal of such injustices as may be found to exist."

In addition, Richard A. Stimpson, research associate for the commission, said he had noticed Connecticut trade unions becoming more liberal toward minorities. However, he said Negro youths are not taking advantage of all the opportunities open to them for training. Only 16 of the 1,342 youths enrolled last year in vocational and trade schools were Negro, he said.

In Hartford, four Negro men and one woman are reported on the police force, with 8 Negroes teaching in city schools. Waterbury and Ansonia also have Negro policemen. The G. Fox and co., one of the largest and oldest stores in Hartford, began to employ Negro women as clerks three years ago and now also hires them as inspector-wrappers.

Hartford's Negro population is now estimated at about 10,000, compared to 7,090 in 1940, out of a total population which has climbed from 162,267 to 206,000.

21h 1946 D. C.

Retiring Justice Department Employee Honored

D. Alexander Wills, 70, head messenger at the Department of Justice in Washington, where he has worked for 25 years, receives congratulations from Attorney General Tom Clark at retiring ceremonies in his honor last week. Mr. Wills received a wallet with $100 as a gift from fellow workers.

Agriculture dept. has 2,119 Negroes

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Negro employees in the Department of Agriculture now total 2,119, almost double their number—1,114—in 1939, it was disclosed this week by Dr. Ernest M. Norris, special personnel assistant in the department. The number does not include 593 cooperative extension agents and 376 emergency war food production aides.

However, these workers comprise only 3.3% of the total personnel—65,202—in Washington and the field, because of the proportionate increase of white workers. Dr. Norris further points out that only 25% are in the highest retention group, which is an indication of how further cutbacks will affect them.

A breakdown of the job classification shows that almost 55% of the Negro employees are in the professional, subprofessional, clerical, administrative, and fiscal categories, compared with 17.8% in these classifications in 1939. While the Negro clerical, administrative, and fiscal employees total only 863, they represent 40.7% of the total Negroes in the Department, which is above the 39.2% for all Department employees.

Dr. Norris' report is being used by USDA personnel director T. Roy Reid to help insure against racial discrimination in the Department's discharges. Secretary Clinton P. Anderson has also issued a memorandum on fair employment practices, emphasizing the department's policy of hiring qualified persons regardless of race, or creed.

Colored Workers Total 11.9 Per Cent of All U.S. Personnel

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Colored persons constitute approximately 11.9 per cent of all federal workers, according to reports from 57 government agencies and departments on March 31, 1944, in a booklet on "Negro Federal Workers" by John A. Davis and Cornelius L. Golightly.

The employment figures for the 57 agencies and departments revealed that of the 2,295,614, or 85 per cent of the total of 2,699,946 full-time continental government workers on last March 31, the total colored was 273,971.

In departmental service, with the headquarters offices chiefly located here, colored workers were 19.2 per cent of a total of 216,208 federal employees, and in "field service, 232,415, or 11.2 per cent of a total of 2,079,406 employees," the survey showed.

Negroes Form 11.9 Per Cent Of Labor

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Messenger at Justice Dept. Honored on His Retirement

WASHINGTON.

U.S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark presented D. Alexander Wills, 70, with a Texas leather billfold containing $100 on the occasion of the latter's retirement last Thursday after 25 years of service as messenger with the Department of Justice.

The presentation was made in the Attorney General's office at the Department of Justice before officials and other employees.

Mr. Wills, who was born in King William County, Va., and came here in his youth has served during the administration of nine Attorney Generals, 18 years of which were spent as head messenger.

Remains Bachelor

Prior to working for the government, he was employed as messenger and porter at the old Lawrence and Dewey hotels.

Mr. Wills, who lives at 1611 S Street, N.W., and who is a bachelor, attributes his health and longevity partly to the fact that he never married.

Although he has been a resident of the District for more than 50 years, Mr. Wills says he never liked Washington. One of his ambitions, he says, is to live to see the District get suffrage.

Officials Present

His hobby is reading magazines and newspapers; although he admitted to smoking cigars and taking an occasional drink. He plans to take life "easy" now.

Among those present at the ceremony were Howard McGrath, Solicitor General; James P. McGranery, Assistant Attorney General; Charles A. Nichols, Goven Holmes, James Lee and Alonzo Collins.

FEDERAL WORKERS BACK TO PEACETIME

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, (ANP) —President Truman is expected to sign an executive order restoring government employment to a peacetime basis soon, the Associated Negro Press has learned from an authoritative source this week.

Affected by the legislation will be some 1,800,000 war service appointees and among them about 40,000 Negroes on the federal payroll in the nation's capital.

The restoration to a peacetime basis will mean a wholesale reclassification and will hurt the Negro worker, who have made great gains in federal service since the war.

Allied with them are representative numbers of various other minority groups who feel they will be deprived of the privilege and right to a job, along with liberal Caucasians who believe in fair play.

Until the war started the bulk of Negro federal workers were in the sub-clerical levels of messenger and custodial services. However, during this war they have not only made great strides in the clerical positions, but have made a heavy dent in the professional levels.

New Jobs.

Colored Graduates Of Engineering Schools to be Hired As Patent Examiners

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Cas par Olmes, Commissioner of Patents for the Department of Commerce, has notified the department that he is desirous of hiring colored graduates of engineering schools as patent examiners in the Department of Commerce and the agency has instructed Emmer M. Lancaster, special adviser on Negro Affairs, to get in touch with

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT NAMES WOMAN PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Mrs. Ada F. Jones, 1804 Second Street, northwest, has been named as an assistant to the director of personnel in the Commerce Department, it was announced last Tuesday. She thus becomes the highest salaried colored woman in the department.

Because most of the gains made by the Negro federal worker have been made in war time agencies, which are being liquidated, the restoration of the peacetime hiring basis will mean that the gains will have gone for naught.

ngineering schools toward this end. Sat. 4-13-46

Mr. Lancaster, who made the announcement, stated that he has already sent letters to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Purdue Universiy, and other engineering schools, including Howard University, in an attempt to interest qualified colored senior engineering students in the jobs.

Students accepted for such positions would start with a P-1 classification at $2,300 a year, with excellent chances for advancement, Mr. Lancaster said.

NEGROS FORM 11.9 PER CENT OF ALL U. S. WORKERS

Daily Bulletin
Dayton, Ohio

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (ANP) Negroes constitute approximately 11.9 per cent of all federal workers, according to reports from 57 government agencies and departments on March 31, 1944, in a booklet on "Negro Federal workers" by John A. Davis and Cornelius L. Golighty. Thurs 1-31-46

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Negro

Is Appointed Patent Examiner

Inquirer
Austin Texas

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—Samuel F. Coleman, railway mail service clerk of New York City, has been appointed a patent examiner in the United States Patent Office, the Commerce Department announced last Thursday. Sat 6-22-46

Mr. Coleman thus becomes the only colored man holding such a position in the Commerce Department. He will start as a P-2 grade with a salary of -2,980.

Government Sidelights

Inquirer Washington D.C.

Ag Dept. Has Test Chemist

Tuesday 6-11-46

By Woody L. Taylor

The United States Department of Agriculture revealed this week that it has a valuable scientific aide in its Beltsville Research Laboratories of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics in the person of Miss Katrine White.

Miss White, who let it be known that she's 23-years-of-age, aids food chemists of the Agriculture Department solve problems that come up so that the Agency can provide improved food conservation methods for American homemakers.

Miss White is one of the first colored women ever to be employed to do scientific work in the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. Inquirer

Her appointment came as the result of a conference of teachers

MISS KATRINE WHITE

of home economics in Negro colleges which was held at the Department of Agriculture here in 1942. She is a graduate of Livingstone College, Salisbury, N.C., and has been working in the Beltsville laboratories for two years. 6-11-46

Miss White's duties include incubating samples, preparing testing solutions, and assisting the chemist in charge in carrying out tests for purifying and concentrating Vitamin B1. In the picture shown in this column she is preparing testing solutions.

First Blind Veteran Hired In Washington Tells Story

Bulletin

WASHINGTON—The first totally blinded World War II veteran to be employed by the federal government in this area told the story this week of his successful rehabilitation to civilian life.

He is 27-year-old Thomas J. Mitchell, who was interviewed on his job Monday at the Navy Department's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

For the past nine months Mitchell has worked as a clerk at the Navy Bureau, aided by his seeing eye dog, Tasca. 6-1-46

Blinded On Saipan

The young veteran lost his sight in the bitter fighting on Saipan in November, 1944, while a boatswain second class in a naval base company. Mitchell lives with his wife, Laura, at 1124 First st., southwest. Saturday

"All I could think of while I lay in the hospital," he said as he caressed Tasca, "was that I had to get myself one of these dogs." Chicago, Ill

After completng the Navy's rehabilitation course at the U. S. Naval Hospital in Philadelphia, Mitchell learned that he had to go to school with Tasca. He enrolled for a month's course at Morristown, N. J., home of the famous seeing-eye dogs.

Achieve Teamwork

Together he and Tasca achieved the teamwork so vital to their relationship. "It was not that Tasca didn't know," the young man emphasized, "I simply had to earn what she knew."

After graduation the two were ready for employment and were given the job at the Navy Bureau.

Nine months of constant companionship has welded a bond of understanding and coordination between Mitchell and Tasca that it almost uncanny. Tasca's entire life centers around the movements of her master. 6-1-46

Dog Relaxes Evenings

When he sits at his desk sealing envelopes, she lies motionless at his feet. When he rises, she is immediately on her feet and at his side. She has been trained to pick up anything he drops and hold it until he takes it from her mouth.

Gets High PO Post

THOMAS P. BOMAR,

"Abe Lincoln's double," who this week was appointed assistant chief clerk at large in the Railway Mail Service, highest post in D.C. postal service held by colored.

BLIND WORKER

THOMAS J. MITCHELL
First totally blind World War II veteran to be employed by the Federal Government in Washington works at his desk in the Navy Department.

SEGREGATION ENDS IN ONE USES OFFICE

The Sun New York, N.Y.

Washington, Sept. 27 (A. P.).—Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach today ordered an end to segregation of white and Negro job applicants in United States Employment Service offices in the District of Columbia. Former Secretary of Commerce Wallace asked for this action two months ago after Negro organizations had conducted protest demonstrations. The Sun Fri. 9-27-46

"The necessary changes in local office organization, including new procedures, will be effected Monday, September 30," Schwellenbach said. "Robert C. Goodwin, director of the United States Employment Service, has at my request worked out the plans that will eliminate separate lines for white and Negro applicants. Separate sets of interviewers, two sets of files and other duplicate operations within the offices. Equitable treatment will thus be afforded all job applicants with improved efficiency in the organization."

Action by Schwellenbach was Nation's capital" and said Wallast month in a letter ace wrote his letter at the reormer Commerce Secquest of a local CIO union. nry A. Wallace after Schwellenbach's order direct- ganizations had staged ed the elimination of separate demonstrations. The lines and separate sets of inter- on Industrial Union viewers. CIO, warmly endorsed as a major step toward n of democracy in the

Washington Post Sept. 27-46

USES in Washington Ends Jim Crow Practice

Jim Crow segregation of Whiteretary Henry requested last sent by former

Negro Women Postal Workers Problem Acute

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 6-15-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—One of pressing issues brought before the Ninth Annual Convention of District Two, National Alliance of Postal Employees, meeting in Norfolk, Va., this week was the problem of the diminishing Negro female worker in the Washington, D. C., post office.

Under an arbitrary ruling issued by Postmaster Vincent C. Burke, all female war service employees have been reduced to substitute status, although many have seniority greater than that of male postal employees retained.

While the immediate effects of the order have been felt by all female workers it bears more heavily on Negro women who with few exceptions are war service appointees.

According to Personnel Director Larsen Swain the number of women employees at the Post Office Department has dipped already from a 1000 wartime high to a low level of about 500.

While it is expected that returning veterans under Selective Service reemployment rights will be given back their old jobs or one of like seniority, a recent Supreme Court decision outlaws super-seniority status for returning veterans.

To date, in spite of complaints, the National Alliance of Postal Employees, headed by Ashby B. Carter of Chicago, has refused to support the right of Negro females in the postal service on the recognized basic principal in collective bargaining negotiations — that of seniority.

Negro female employees were accepted in the local Postal Alliance group in Washington and paid dues, none of which was earmarked by sex. Among broad administrative powers given to each individual Postmaster by the Postmaster General, Robert E. Hannegan, is the privilege to issue such directives as he sees fit.

National Postal Alliance President Carter shares a comparable view. According to Carter, the most pressing problem facing the Alliance is that of placing Negro men in the postal service, particularly in the South, men whom he describes as the heads of families.

Carter apparently completely ignores the fact that as far back as 1940, 22.9 per cent of all Negro family heads were Negro women. As opposed to this, only 14.4 of white families list as their heads women.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
Sept. 29, 1946

Segregation of Job Seekers Is Ended in Capital

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—(AP)—Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach today ordered an end to segregation of white and Negro job applicants in U. S. Employment Offices in the District of Columbia.

Former Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace asked for this action two months ago after Negro organizations had conducted protest demonstrations.

"The necessary changes in local office organization, including new procedures, will be effected Monday, September 30," Schwellenbach said.

"Mr. Robert C. Goodwin, Director of the U. S. Employment Service, has at my request worked out the plans that will eliminate separate lines for white and Negro applicants, separate sets of interviewers, two sets of files and other duplicate operations

Regional Chiefs in NHA Balk Wyatt's Job Edict

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-12-46

Only 144 of 1751 Workers Are Non-White, 80 Per Cent in Office of Expediter

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — A recent study has revealed that, although Wilson W. Wyatt, national housing expediter, instructed personnel officers to hire more colored workers on staff levels in the NHA as of Sept. 27, only 144 of the 1751 employees were colored, more than 80 per cent of whom were in Wyatt's office.

While Wyatt has gone all out to make good on his promise of last May 29 to give colored people a chance at staff jobs, his branch and regional chiefs have not kept pace with his office.

Only 20 colored persons are employed in field offices of the NHA throughout the country, none of whom is above the CAF-4 level, except regional race relations advisors who hold jobs in the CAF-13 classification.

124 in Wyatt's Office

In comparison, Wyatt's office has employed 124 colored persons on job levels ranging from CAF-2 to the professional grade of P-7.

The race relations advisers, under the NHA, are the same men who constituted the race relations staff for the Federal Public Housing Administration and were working on the housing program before Wyatt's order to hire additional personnel was issued.

Some housing authorities openly admit that Wyatt's chiefs are sabotaging his attempts to hire qualified colored personnel in the better jobs.

They cite his first letter to them, directing that a "vigorous" search be made for such personnel and calling for weekly reports on the number of minority group personnel hired.

When this directive failed to bring results, Wyatt, last June 8, notified Howard University, Tuskegee Institute, the National Urban League, the NAACP, and other minority organizations of vacancies in the program and asked them to recommend qualified personnel for such jobs. Only a handful of applications came in response.

Regional Employees

The number of colored workers in each region, exclusive of race relations advisers, follow:

Region 1 (Maine, Massachusets, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont), 45 employees, none colored.

Region 2 (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania), 137 employees; four colored.

Region 3 (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Johnson and Wyandette Counties in Kansas), ninety-two employees; two colored.

THREE IN REGION 7

Region 4 (Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia), seventy employees; one colored.

Region 5 (Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma), 112 employees; one colored.

Region 6 (Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah and Hawaii), sixty-nine employees; none colored.

Region 7 (Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and Alaska) fifty-[illegible] employees: three colored.

Enters His 29th Year of U. S. Work

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y. Sat 8-31-46

Charles A. Cornish, the last of three colored employees of the U. S. Pension Office will enter his twenty-ninth year of continuous government service on August 23. The other two employees, William Green and Walter Coates, recently died.

Mr. Cornish was appointed by the U. S. Civil Service Commission after an examination held at Gulfport, Miss., and went to Washington, D. C. in 1917 as a messenger in the Bureau of Ordnance War Department at $720 per annum. He was transferred to the office of Secretary of Interior. Afterwards he took the clerk promotion examination, was appointed clerk with the Bureau of Pensions, continued with the bureau until the merger of it with Veterans Bureau in 1920.

He came to N. Y. C. with the National Life Insurance and later assigned to Readjustment Control Division where presently employed. Mr. Cornish is active in civic and social affairs. His hobby is bridge. He is a communicant of Holy Rosary Church of Brooklyn.

Washington Losing Huge Population Of Women

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-28-46

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — According to the civil service commission, Uncle Sam's nieces are gradually leaving the federal payroll, although the demand for women employes continues.

To prove its contention, the commission states that by V-J day, six out of every 10 federal employes in the district were women, but by September of this year, the ratio was changed to almost six men to every four women on the payroll.

A nightly visit to the local clubs and theatres bears this out. A few months ago, one could attend a dance or party and for every two or three men attending, the women were either two to one or three to one, but now the ratio is almost even.

When one visits another city, it is not unusual to run into many familiar federal girls who once worked in the district and are now "back home."

Figures released this week by the commission on the decline of the female employes showed, as of September: men, 117,500; women, 108,500. The ratio in September had about reached the pre-war mark, four women to every six men, but peak employment in wartime found women outnumbering men by more than 50,000.

This shift in proportion results largely from the return of veterans to pre-war jobs and from veteran preference in hiring and retention, the commission stated.

Old Timers of War Dept. Public Relations

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-19-46

These employes of the War Department Public Relations Division helped "carry the ball" for the Army throughout the war years in carrying out its mission of informing the public "continuously on the state of the Military Establishment and its activities." They are, left to right, standing: Miss Evelyn Penny, Washington, liaison section; Herbert Brown, Washington, press section; James Barnes, Brooklyn, N.Y., administrative services; Mrs. Adelle V. R. Mason, Harrisburg, Pa., publications section; Mrs. Isabelle L. Preston, Arkansas City, Ark., pictorial section; Mrs. Linda Wilson, New York, formerly of administrative services. Seated: Mrs. Louise Williams, New York, administrative services; Henry Towles, Washington, administrative services; Miss Doris Temple, New York, formerly of administrative services.

21h 1946

Europe (U. S. Government)

Discharged

Veterans Fill Civilian Posts In Germany

The Informer
Houston Texas
Sat. 4-6-46

FRANKFURT, Germany— Discharged Negro soldiers, aware of the many opportunities for advancement through education and self improvement while overseas are accepting jobs with the American Military Government in Germany. At the end of February, nine of them were employed in clerical jobs at Headquarters, U. S. Forces, European Theater (USFET) in Frankfurt alone.

Thomas T. Frierson, 26 of 580 J. C. Napier street, Nashville, Tennessee, and Alvin D. Horne, 25, of Route 1, Box 101, Holtville, California, may be regarded as typical of the group.

Mr. Frierson, son of Mrs. Dorthulia Owens, 6034 Loomis Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, is married to Mrs. Bernice Frierson of the same address. He was a technician fourth grade in the 570th Ordnance Ammunition Company and was discharged from the Army on December 3, 1945, at Waremme, Belgium. Trained in basic subjects at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Mr. Frierson, who landed overseas on April 7, 1944, is presently assigned as a clerk-typist in the Personnel and Equipment Branch of American Military Government in the I. G. Farben Building.

The son of Mrs. Aline C. Horne of Holtville, California, Mr. Horne has been on the Continent since D-plus-14 and left Belgium last October 14 for separation processing at Bamberg, Germany. He served with the 390th Engineer General Service Regiment. A former employee of the Naval Air Station, North Island, San Diego, California, Mr. Horne is single and has been employed as a clerk-typist by AMG since December 15, 1945.

Assigned to Germany. William S. Shiver of New Haven, Conn., who was among the latest group of civilian employes to sail from New York Port of Embarkation for assignment with the US Army forces in the European Theatre. Shortly after Mr. Shiver was graduated from Xavier University in 1942, he was inducted into the Army. Two and a half of his three years as a GI were spent in the European Theatre, where, in addition to his duties as an administrative non-com, he served as interpreter at an Ordnance Depot in France which employed French civilian workers. A clerk-typist, he has signed up to work for a year in Germany—(US Army foto from Bureau of Public Relations).

TO EUROPE: Mrs. Fay M. Jones, 135 W. 123rd St., was aboard the SS Henry Gibson when she sailed recently for Europe. Out of 30 appointees she was the only Negro to receive an overseas commission in the U. S. reconstruction office of Engineers at Frankfort, Germany, where she now receives her mail. Miss Jones was formerly a stenographer with Selective Service Board No. 57.

6-1-46

6 NEGRO CIVILIANS WORK IN VIENNA

The Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

VIENNA, Austria—Six Negroes, five former GIs and one adventurous young woman from Detroit, Mich., are employed as clerk-typists with U. S. Military Government in Austria, according to Col. Stanley Grogan, public relations officer for U. S. Forces in Austria. All six work in Vienna. Sat. 6-22-46

They are Mitchell Goss, Orange, N. J.; Curtis Johnson, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Woodrow Maxwell, Evanston, Ill.; William E. Davis, Springfield, Ohio; J. D. Hurd, Marshall, Texas, and Miss Rosie Richardson, Detroit, Mich.

TWO NEGRO LIEUTENANT COLONELS, ONE CIVILIAN GET OVERSEAS POSTS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Lieutenant Colonels Wendell T. Derricks, Field Artillery, 4943 Vincennes Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and Hyman Y. Chase, Infantry, 654 Girard Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., have been ordered to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey for transportation to the European Theater, it was disclosed August 14th by the War Department.

The department also announced that Mr. Edgar F. Love, 1812 Woodland Avenue, Kansas City, Mo., had accepted an appointment in Manila as administrative assistant in Ordnance supply.

Colonel Derricks formerly commanded the nowinactivated 597th Field Artillery attalion which fired its 105-mm howitzers with telling effect against tse Germans in Italy, while supporting operations of the 92nd Infantry Division. The Bystander Des Moines, Iowa

Colonel Chase is a former commanding officer of the First Battalion Infantry Replacement Training Center, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Mr. Love, a graduate of Lincoln University, Missouri, and the University of Michigan was scheduled to sail from San Francisco on Monday, August 19. He spent eight months in Ethiopia as headmaster in a government operated school and six months near Cairo as a War Department administrative assistant at Camp Russell B. Huckstep. Thurs. 9-12-46

Military Worker Living in Former Nazi Rendezvous

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-26-46

ROME, Italy—Dr. Dwight Wilson of Washington is among Allied representatives living in the swank Hotel Excelsior, former hangout for topranking Nazis and Fascists.

Later it was a Fifth Army officers mainly for Field grade American officers and officers with dependents.

Heads Division

Dr. Wilson, a member of the Allied Commission here, is head of the Micro Film and Records Division, replacing an English major. All other members of the Commission are white.

Dr. Wilson has requested his wife from the States, and plans to stay in Italy indefinitely because "I like it very much."

Bound for Overseas Posts

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Edgar F. Love | John R. Tibbs | George L. Tyndal

Sat. 8-31-46

Mr. Tibbs and Mr. Tyndal, both of Washington, sailed this week for Frankfurt, Germany, to accept government posts. Mr. Tibbs, a graduate of Ohio State University, will work as statistical clerk with the overseas branch of the Secretary of War's office. Mr. Tyndal will work as multilith operator in U.S. headquarters. Mr. Love, a graduate of Lincoln University, Pa., and the University of Michigan, will serve in Manila, P.I., as administrative assistant in ordnance. He spent eight months in Ethiopia as headmaster of a government school and six months as War Department assistant in Cairo. He hails from Kansas City, Mo.

Daily World

IN ARMY SPECIAL SERVICE — Several weeks ago, Miss Mercedes J. Hopkins was selected as a member of the Army Special Service. In order that she be qualified for the new position, Miss Hopkins was in training at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Completing the course of training she went by plane to Frankfurt, Germany, where she is presently located.

Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Hopkins for a number of years was on the staff of the Associated Charities, Cincinnati, Ohio. During the war, she was transferred to Fort Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan, as the first Colored USO Traveler Aid Director. Later Miss Hopkins was sent to Fort Bragg, N. C., where she served eight months and was finally sent to Tuskegee where she served as Director of U. S. O. Travelers Aid Service until she accepted her new position.

Miss Hopkins is a graduate of Spelman College, Virginia Union School of Social Work, University of Cincinnati and has done graduate work at the University of Chicago. She is a member of the American and National Social Workers Conference and a soror of the AKA sorority.

Sun. 10-27-46

Miss Hopkins cabled her parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Hopkins, announcing her safe arrival in Germany.

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

SAILS—George L. Tyndal, 227 M Street, S. W., Washington, D. C., was scheduled to sail from New York for Germany the week of August 24, to accept a position as multilith operator with Headquarters, U. S. Forces, European Theater, at Frankfurt, Germany. He is a five-year employe of the War Department.—U. S. Army photo from Public Relations Division.)

Sat. 8-31-46

The World Memphis, Tenn.

HEADS FOLIES BEGERE—Monsieur Whily-Tell, general administrator of the famed Folies Begere, leading music hall in France. For 19 years he has worked there, starting as a stage hand and developing step by step until Monsieur Paul Derval, the owner, made him confidential secretary, later placing all administration in his hands. A native of Cayenne, French Guiana, he had lived in France ever since he was a boy. Holding several academic degrees he is an officer of the Academy Francaise.—(ANP). Fri. 9-6-46

Equal Job Opportunities for All Favored by Increasing Minority of White Public

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 8-24-46

Stronger Opposition Noted 2 Years Ago, at Height of War; 49-47 Division Now

DENVER—Asked whether colored and white people should have the same chance to get any kind of job in the United States, the white public revealed that it is almost equally divided on this question.

While 49% say whites should have first chance at jobs, 47% believe all should have equal opportunity, according to nation-wide survey results just released by the National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver.

Upward Change in 2 Years

Two years ago, at the height of the war, opinion divided less evenly, with 52% of a white cross-section believing that white people should have priority, and 42% saying that Negroes and whites should have the same chance to get any job.

When, on the more recent survey, colored people were asked the same question, 92% demanded an equal opportunity to compete in the labor market.

The shift of opinion among the white public as a whole holds constant among the various population groups and the "Undecided" responses (47% in 1946 and 67% in 1944) are likewise slightly but consistently smaller.

Sectional Improvement Noted

In 1944, for instance, only 19% of Southerners believed in equality of economic opportunity; today 27% of Southerners would give all the same chance at any kind of job.

Among the college-educated the proportion advocating job equality has increased from 58 to 65%; among persons with the least education, from 31 to 39%.

While sectional feeling makes for the sharpest division of opinion, persons in the more privileged groups educationally and occupationally are more willing than those less privileged to see equalization of job opportunities.

How Opinions Ranged

The most significant comparisons on the conclusion, "Colored and White People Should Have the Same Chance to Get Any Job," follow:

All whites interviewed	47%
New England and Middle Atlantic States	60%
Midwest and West	50
South	27
Attended College	65%
Attended High School	49
Eighth Grade or Less	39
Professional People	65%
Businessmen	53
White Collar Workers	52
Service Workers	50
Manual and Factory Workers	44
Farmers	40

Construction Gives Basis

Most common of the comments volunteered by the 47% who believe in equal job rights is "The Constitution says colored people should have equal rights."

An Atlanta housewife quotes the Declaration of Independence: "Each individual is endowed with inalienable rights and all men are created equal."

Also typical is the statement of a Virginia librarian, who exclaims, "Why all this talk about world democracy if we don't clean up our own back yard first?"

They Fought, Let Them Work

One of a number of Chicago factory workers comments in this vein, "I have seen colored men being drafted in the war to fight same as us—so they should have the same chance now."

Women more often than men point out the religious implications of the issue, a Huntington, W.Va., housewife, stating, "If you are a real Christian, you have to consider everybody equal."

Qualifications as Criteria

Still others insist on qualifications, a Kentucky coal miner puts it this way: "I say, let the best man win. If a n—r can beat me doing a job, let him have it."

Of the colored people interviewed, most raised the merits argument, an Arkansas housewife remarking typically: "If colored people have the same qualifications they should have the same chance."

Pure Bias of Some

Of the 49% who believe whites should have job priority, 11% answered in such terms as these: "Whites are the superior race," or "I believe in white supremacy."

While more common in the South, this reaction also represents Northerners, such as Lorain, Ohio, a housewife who thinks that "colored people should have a place but they should be kept in their place."

Still, others say "Colored people belong in certain jobs, like in restaurants, or porters, or helpers," or "In the beginning colored people were created to be servants, and I think they should remain so."

Held Not Dependable

An equal number of whites (11%) emphasize their conviction that colored people are not dependable or co-operative and have other undesirable characteristics.

Some representing this segment of opinion express the fear that "if you once give colored people too much authority they will become arrogant and hard to handle."

Many whites (10%) would give their own race job priority because they feel colored people lack education and/or intelligence, a Kansas City clerk saying "Whites are higher in our ways and thinking and education. We are more capable."

"A White Man's Country"

Still others remark: "This is a white man's country," or "Where white people predominate, they should be considered first."

Northerners frequently tend to "pass the buck" on the issue, say, for example, "The colored people have a place of their own down South."

A New Jersey laborer, probably ignorant of the fact that the first slave ship docked in Jamestown about 1619, states: "We whites are in the majority, and we were here first—before the colored people came."

Some white people are extremely frank about their feelings. A Birmingham businessman, for instance, answers: "It's a matter of personal prejudice with me." And a Pennsylvania housewife says: "I am prejudiced against colored people."

Increase Shown In Negro Department Store Personnel

Defender Chicago, Ill
Sat. 8-24-46

NEW YORK — The national Urban League revealed this week that substantial gains have been made in placing Negro clerks in department stores throughout the country since 1938, when they were virtually barred from such employment.

The information was contained in a manual entitled "Integration of Negroes in Department Stores," compiled by Leroy Jeffries, Assistant Director of Industrial Relations, indicates largest gains were made in New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

The retail merchandising field is gradually giving new job opportunities to Negroes, Jeffries stated. Fourteen large merchandise firms in New York employ Negro sales and stock clerks, stenographers and personnel executives. League reports show that six clerks have been placed in two Newark stores. In Boston, seven stores including exclusive Cambridge and Back Bay shops employ 20 Negro salesgirls, in addition to Negro clerical workers. Some gains were recorded in the West and mid west.

White Collar Jobs Open

Lessening of opposition to hiring Negroes in department stores is considered encouraging to greater employment in all white collar jobs, the pamphlet stated. This is one of the areas in which fear of public opinion has kept employment bars most rigid. In 1938 there were no Negroes hired as sales clerks in any of New York's seven major department stores, according to the survey.

The break in exclusive hiring patterns came during the war years after intensive campaigning by the league and other civic organizations. The example set by New York stores has been studied in other cities. According to the pamphlet, the movement shows signs of a rapid spread. Such integration has become a major Urban league objective, with emphasis placed on Chicago.

The manual, sub-titled, "Practical Applications for Integration of Negroes in Department Stores," establishes a plan for training in merchandising and retailing for local league branches and schools, in cooperation with department store management. The plan will be used as a basis of discussion for local approaches to the problem during the league's annual conference in St. Louis. The conference also will study at length, the problem of Negro workers in white collar fields.

Schwellenbach Agrees to End USES J. C. Policy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 9-21-46

WASHINGTON

Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach last Wednesday agreed to abolish segregation in the District of Columbia USES Offices, but rejected the recommendation of minority representatives to stop the filling of discriminatory hiring orders when public employment offices return to the States, Nov. 15.

Abolition of segregation in the USES offices was expected to be effected within a fortnight. Administrative procedures involved in making the change prevented the secretary from taking immediate action, it was said.

Mr. Schwellenbach's promise came after minority organization and labor union representatives had held a conference with USES officials and presented him with a six-point program for the protection of minority interests when public employment offices are returned to the States.

Other recommendations called for:

Refusal to accept discriminatory hiring orders, denial of service to such employers, inclusion in State operating plans of policies to promote full utilization of minority workers, assignment of personnel to see that these policies are followed, and equal employment opportunities for all of the agency's employees, without discrimination.

Robert C. Weaver, representing the American Council on Race Relations, acted as spokesman for the group which included:

Clarence Mitchell, NAACP labor secretary; Will Maslow, American Jewish Congress; Julius Thomas, National Urban League; Frank S. Loescher, American Friends' Society; George L. P. Weaver, CIO Anti-Discrimination Committee; Masaosatou Kido, Japanese-American Citizens' League; the Rev. W. H. Jernagin, Federal Council of Churches, and I. M. Ornburn, AFL.

Secretary Schwellenbach was called into the conference after the delegates had reached a stalemate with Robert C. Goodwin, USES director, and other USES officials over the question of discontinuing service to employers who insisted on submitting discriminatory hiring orders.

1946 Found Crucial Year For Negro Employment

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Wed. 1-8-47

NEW YORK—While 400,000 Negro workers were unemployed during 1946 and racial discrimination in employment remains widespread in America, significant advances have been made by Negroes in a number of job fields, according to a year-end statement released this week by the National Urban League, America's only national interracial social welfare agency.

"This was the year when we without jobs, but the employment feared Negro unemployment would level has held remarkably well reach 1,000,000," Julius A. during the first year of peace," Thomas, the League's Industrial Relations Director, stated. "We anticipated finding many thousands displaced Negro war workers

Contributing Factors

Not only the comparatively high level of general post-war employ-

ment, but the successful experience of many large companies which employed Negroes for the first time during the war, the determined efforts of progressive trade unions to outlaw discrimination, and the enactment and implementation of fair employment practices legislation in several states have proved contributing factors, Mr. Thomas pointed out.

Urban League Opened New Jobs

In its efforts to open new and better jobs for Negro workers, the National Urban League met with more success in 1946 than in any previous year, Mr. Thomas reported. The League in placing "the first Negro" in a wide range of new jobs in 50 cities scattered throughout the country. Switchboard operators, clerks, stenographers, installers, coin collectors and technicians were placed in jobs with local telephone companies in Detroit, Minneapolis, Boston, Providence, Milwaukee, San Francisco and Newark. In New York and New Jersey, 500 Negro switchboard operators and workers in other classifications were added to the telephone work force. The companies had employed 152,000 persons sinve V-J Day, of whom less than 1,500 were Negroes.

Despite the initial success in breaking down unfair practices by the telephone companies in these areas, most telephone company operating units still are guilty of flagrant discrimination against Negroes, Thomas emphasized, and the National Urban League is attacking the problem in this field with renewed vigor.

In other white collar fields, considerable gains were brought about during the year in the employment of Negro sales people, clerks, and cashiers in department stores, insurance companies, and other establishments which formerly did not hire Negroes, and notably in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

1946 Daily World

South Still Major Problem

Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 8-14

These favorable trends are most pronounced in Northern states, however, the National Urban League report pointed out, and progress in the South remains stymied by continued adhherence to traditional caste patterns. The League's efforts to place Negro veterans and other workers in decent jobs, and especially in the white collar field, still are meeting stiff opposition from Southern white employers. In Atlanta, Memphis and Richmond, the telephone management, despite the obviously urgent need for dinesmen and skilled construction workers, stubbornly has refused to employ qualified Negro veterans, though veterans are supposed to receive preference. Large companies now establishing new plants in the South are taking the position that they cannot "buck" local racial employment patterns. But the League's program in the South is being strengthened for a renewed attack on discrimination, and the union organizing drives are viewed as a strong asset in the fight. 1-8-47

It was recalled that the 1946 Annual National Urban League Conference voted unnimous support to the current Southern organizating campaigns of the democratic unions.

21h 1946

General

Negro War Jobs Gains Largest in 85-Year Period, Says Dr. Weaver

Kansas City Jour.

ST. LOUIS.—(ANP)—Negro workers gained more industrial jobs during the last war than in the preceeding 85 years, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, director of the American Council on Race Relations, Chicago, told representatives of civic organizations attending the Community Race Relations Institute of Greater St. Louis at Metropolitan Y.W.C.A., Thursday.

Dr. Weaver reviewed the status of Negro industrial workers between World War I and World War II. Most of the gains made by them along the lines of occupational diversification occurred after 1942, he said. They were on the sidelines of American industrial life, where they had been since the first world war, when the defense program started, he declared.

The war caused some breakdown in color caste, he continued, and brought about vocational training of Negroes in many sections of the country.

"Despite these gains, Negroes are still concentrated in heavy industry and unskilled jobs," Dr. Weaver asserted. "The economic fate of the Negro has never been and will never be disassociated from that of all the labor of the nation. As with all workers, the volume of total employment in the nation is the key to the Negro worker's future. But full employment will not solve all these and associated problems of inter-group relations.

Fri 2-22-46

"During the war we established the FEPC to encourage fair as well as full employment. This agency has become a symbol to darker Americans. It is needed now as part of a two-pronged program for economic equality and as an important psychological factor symbolizing the government's concern about making all of its people belong in our democracy."

Representatives of 34 social, civic, labor and religious organizations heard by Dr. A. N. Vaughn, physician and chairman of the group discussing health, report that the 900 hospital beds available to Negroes in the city is below requirement. Herbert M. Ramel, vice-president of Ramsey Accessories Manufacturing corporation, also reported that "colored leaders are not satisfied simply with employment of some colored people.

"They, essentially, want an end to segregation in all phases; complete economic equality in their goal."

NO COLOR LINE ON AIRLINERS

East and West Memphis Crittenden County

Negro Pilots Will Not Be Barred From Jobs

Eastern Arkansas World

New York—American Airlines and its subsidiary, American Overseas Airlines, Inc., told the NAACP this week that they do not discriminate as to race, creed or color in the employment of personnel.

This statement was in response to an NAACP letter inquiring about employment opportunities for war-trained Negro aviators.

Arkansas

3-23-46

However, American Overseas Airlines declared that since they operate to overseas bases only "our minimum qualifications for pilots are higher than those of domestic lines." They prefer college graduates not more than 6 feet 2 inches tall, or more than 200 pounds in weight. The age bracket is 23-28 years.

Saturday

At least 1500 flying hours are required with a minimum of 800 hours on four-engined planes.

The company states that it has at present its full complement of pilots and is able to recruit pilots with flying experience "considerably in excess of the minimum qualifications shown above." However, they offer to put any qualified person on their waiting list.

By George S. Schuyler

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Good news continues to come from the U. S. Employment Service. Director Goodwin reports employment rose sharply in July in two-thirds of the ninety-five important labor markets, with eighty-two of these areas reporting optimistic labor prospects for the next few months with expected sizeable expansion in various industries. Unemployment stands at the low figure of 2,270,000. Thus end the dire prophesies made last year that there would soon be vast armies of jobless. It looks like a good winter.

Sat.

BEST IN 85 YEARS

Weaver Cites Negro Job Gains

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — Negro workers gained more industrial jobs during the last war than in the preceding 85 years, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, director of Chicago's American Council on Race Relations, told representatives of civic organizations attending the Community Race Relations Institute of Greater St. Louis at Metropolitan YWCA Thursday.

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FEPC A Symbol

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"They, essentially, want an end to segregation in all phases; complete economic equality is their goal."

RALPH T. JONES

Atlanta Constitution

I'd Hate to Pay Him Two Cents an Hour

Atlanta, Ga.

He is one of our colored fellow laborers. He works on a demolition job across the street. They are, it seems, taking down the front wall of the two-story brick building directly opposite the windows of my office. Taking it down brick by brick.

There are half a dozen workers on the job. In two days they have lowered the top of the wall by six or eight brick layers.

There is this particular son of toil. Occasionally I look out of my window. He, or rather his method of work, fascinates me.

He has, I should guess, pried as many as three bricks out of place in the past hour. Not more. He has, to be sure, knocked a little mortar dust off his area of operations, flicking it daintily away with the ends of his gloved fingers.

He spends, I should estimate, four-fifths of his time sitting back contemplating the bright sunshine. Or casually observing what goes on in the street below. Or knocking his gloved hands together, getting rid of the brick dust. Or straightening the cuffs of his khaki work pants. Or merely resting.

I have watched him do all these things with a few desultory pokes with an iron bar at the bricks. Very rare, those pokes. Very casual. And very ineffectual.

Sat 3-16-46

Unpleasant Job

It is obviously not a pleasant job. First of all, there is the disagreeable feature of position. Sitting on top of a two-story-high wall is not so nice. I couldn't do it at all. What is the name of that sickness that prevents people from standing on high places? Maybe he is a sufferer from that malaise. Again, it could be warm in the sunshine, though the breeze is sufficient to balloon his blue shirt.

Perhaps he is suffering from the same disease that has fallen so tragically upon millions in Europe, China, India, etc. Malnutrition. Perhaps the poor soul is so lacking in energy, short of vitamins or calories or something, he can do no better.

If that is the case, I do hope he is being paid by the hour, and not on piece work. For, if he is paid by the number of bricks he dislodges, he and his family, if any, would surely go hungry on his earnings. I said three bricks an hour was his speed? Exaggeration. I'll swear he doesn't achieve that much speed.

But he's apparently a happy soul. As he sits, comfortably relaxed, legs crossed, gazing into the sunshine, his face is in full view from my window. And he looks cheerful. Most of the time there is a broad, expansive grin stretching his mouth.

There he goes! He's traded his iron bar for a pick. He lifts it and lets it fall, seemingly by its own weight, against the bricks and crumbling mortar. Ah, there, he got a brick out. Another! Unbelievable.

Thought that would be too much for him. He has sat down head onto his arms for a moment or two. A two old bricks, without pause between for rest, d. Sat 3-16-46 ut him. If he collapses from overexertion, it'll m off that roof. re'y unconscious. He's entered into conversation What they discuss I don't know, of course. a billfold from his pocket and extracts one bill e be, at this distance, quite a wad. He tenders lue shirt extends his hand. There is further the bill is returned to the original billfold. finds a brick already tossed on the pile. He Now he's happy. Resting and enjoying the the conversation. n old saying: and bricks to unlodge, but the first thing to do man who loosens two ol must feel exhausted. Sa

e Of Negroes In Retail

ed by the National Urban league here last week, in a department store manual, compiled by Leroy Jeffries, assistant director of industrial relations department, from re- e use of Ne- erical workers andising field

de in New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

Jeffries stated that new joy opportunities to Negroes are gradually opening up in a field which was as late as 1938 "barred to Negroes as effectively as if by legislative fiat." Negroes are now being used as sales and stock clerks, ports of local leagues. The manual, entitled "Integration of Negroes in Department Stores," indicated stenographers and personnel executives as sales and clerical that the greatest gains have been in 14 large firms in the retail merchandising field throughout the country was revealed.

Increase Use Of Negroes In Merchandising

Miami, Florida Sat 5-11-46

NEW YORK — (ANP) —

New York area, while six clerks have been reported placed in two Newark stores. In Boston, several stores, including small exclusive shops in the Cambridge and Back Bay sections, are using a total of 20 Negro sales girls in addition to clerical workers. A number of department stores in small western and mid-western towns are hiring Negro clerks. Early this year, the first Negro clerk was placed in a department store in Milwaukee.

Looked upon as one of the industries in which timidity on the part of employers fearing public opinion has kept employment bars most rigid, Jeffries points out that the lessening of opposition to employ Negroes is an encouraging sign.

Sat. 8-24-46

Poll 47-49 on Equal Chance at Job for Negroes

Journal
Atlanta, Ga.
7-18-46

DENVER, Aug. 17.—Should Negroes and whites have the same chance to get any kind of job in the United States? Today the white public is almost equally divided on this question—49 per cent say whites should have first chance at jobs, but 47 per cent believe that Negroes should have an equal opportunity—according to nation-wide survey results just released by the National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver.

Two years ago, at the height of the war, opinion divided less evenly, with 52 per cent of a white cross-section believing that white people should have priority, and 42 per cent saying that Negroes and whites should have the same chance to get any job.

NORC interviewers asked this question of a representative sample of white Americans from Detroit to New Orleans and from Washington, D. C., to San Francisco:

"Do you think Negroes should have as good a chance as white people to get any kind of job, or do you think white people should have the first chance at any kind of jib?"

	1946	1944
Negroes should have an equal chance	47%	42%
Whites should have first chance	49	52
Undecided	4	6
	100%	100%

When, on the more recent survey, Negroes were asked the same question, 92 per cent demanded an equal opportunity to compete in the labor market.

The shift of opinion evidenced among the white public as a whole holds constant among the various population groups and the "undecided" responses are likewise slightly but consistently smaller.

While sectional feeling on the issue makes for the sharpest division of opinion, persons in the more privileged groups educationally and occupationally are more willing than those less privileged to see Negroes and whites have equal job opportunities.

Among the many illuminating comments volunteered by the 47 per cent who believe that "Negroes should have as good a chance as white people to get any kind of a job" are a number who base their argument on democratic principles. Most common is the comment: "The Constitution says Negroes should have equal rights." An Atlanta housewife quotes the Declaration of Independence: "Each individual is endowed with inalienable rights and all men are created equal."

The 49 per cent who believe that whites should have job priority were asked: "Why do you think so?" Many give more than one reason.

A number of whites (11 per cent) answer in such terms as these: "Whites are the superior race," or "I believe in white supremacy." White more common in the South; this reaction also represents Northerners such as a Lorain, Ohio, housewife, who thinks that "colored people should have a place, but they should be kept in their place."

Orders

The Informer
Houston, Texas
Sat. 10-5-46

Segregation Abolished In USES Office

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—Segregation of colored and white job seekers in the District of Columbia office of the United States Employment Service was ordered abolished, effective last Monday, by Secretary of Labor, Lewis B. Schwellenbach.

His action in ending segregation in the local USES office was dimmed by his restatement on the same day of a meaningless policy to be followed by the public employment offices after their return to the states November 15. Under this policy, the public employment offices will continue to fill discriminatory hiring requisition.

The fight for abolition of race segregation in the local USES offices was spearheaded by the United Public Workers of America (CIO) and the NNPA News Service and was brought to a head by the letter of former Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace protesting to Mr. Schwellenbach against the dual set-up, including separate lines for interviews and separate application files, which served to reduce the scope of employment opportunities for colored job applicants.

20 Million Women Workers Vanish

Tribune Washington, D.C.
By RICHARD DIER
Sat. 10-5-46

The woman worker in American industry, who helped make a shining production record during the war years, and whose graceful curves neatly filled out a pair of overalls or slacks is gradually disappearing.

It wasn't so long ago that the vast army of 20,000,000 women was being heaped with praise for taking over the jobs left by men called to the service.

They included mothers, wives, sweethearts and sisters of servicemen; as well as those with no family ties who did it for sheer patriotism.

Seen Everywhere

They worked on shifts around-the-clock in war factories, took over railroad jobs, became ticket agents and trolley operators; and even replaced men in retail and department stores.

It was a glorious achievement in that it helped the country, and gave some women the first chance they had to earn some money for themselves.

They bought war bonds, saved cash in the bank, and gained thereby, their first feeling of independence as wage earners.

A Matter of History

Today, all that is becoming a thing of the past. More and more of the "forgotten women" are among the applicants for unemployment insurance benefits. By January of this year, at least 4,000,000 had dropped out of the labor market.

As servicemen return to their former jobs and the labor market tightens, the figure will increase . . . with all probability that women who don't have to work for a living will eventually return to the home as before.

In 1943, women made up 22 per cent of the workers in Ford Motor Co. plants. Today they constitute only 4 per cent of the working force. In the Detroit Rouge plant alone, where 11,275 women had been employed, only 2,335 remain. The Ford assembly plant at Edgewater, N. J. had 1,500 women out of 5,437 employees during the war. The last two hundred were laid off last month.

Hired on Condition

Women ticket collectors on the Long Island Railroad, a familiar sight throughout the war, are completely out. They had been hired on the condition that they would give up the jobs when the men returned.

The Brooklyn Navy Yard, where thousands of women were employed at lathes, boring-bars, in the optical shops, at small precision work, and in the offices, is slowly becoming another place where the woman in overalls is extinct.

With the work load cut more than half and preference in employment being given to returning veterans, it won't be long before the only females around will be those working in the offices.

Took Hard Jobs

Colored women, especially, took over trolley operation jobs in Brooklyn and maintained the high ivel of efficiency throughout the conflict.

Operating a trolley car in heavy traffic in all kinds of weather and collecting and giving change, too, is no cinch . . . but they proved themselves equal to the task. During the last year of the war, there were more colored women operators on the Flushing lines in Brooklyn than white men and women combined.

Today, this is also passe. I have not seen one in months, and the chances are that there aren't any more around.

Women More Efficient

Of course, some women took over jobs formerly handled by men and proved they were better and more efficient. Strange as it seems, most employers will agree that female employees are better than males in certain types of work that require lots of patience, like tedious office details and precision work.

This is in the minority and can't be taken as an example of the whole. However, there are admittedly some cases where women will remain at their jobs, provided of course, such positions were not left by servicemen.

A Salute to Women

In the main, women showed they had what it takes. Men who worked alongside of them in war years enjoyed the change. It helped relieve the monotony for them.

Of far more importance is the fact that they turned out the weapons that made the difference between victory and defeat.

TELEPHONE INDUSTRY EMPLOYS MORE OPERATORS

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.
Sat. 11-9-46

NEW YORK—(SNS)—The New England Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Michigan Bell Telephone Company have issued instructions that workers will be employed strictly on the basis of their qualifications without regard to race, officials of the National Urban League announced this week. The immediate results of the action of these two companies was the employment of Negro switchboard operators in Detroit exchanges and the recruitment of trainees for positions as clerks, stenographers, and operators in Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. In Minnesota, the first two Negro trainees in the history of the Bell Telephone Company there have been included among a group of high school graduates selected for employment. 11-9-46

Employment policies in this industry have been under close observation for the past year, Julius A. Thomas, the League's Director of Industrial Relations, said. Like so many large enterprises, the telephone company had not given serious thought to its racial employment policies until the Urban League made a study of its policies in 44 cities, which revealed that the employment of Negroes was generally limited to service and unskilled labor in the majority of cases. New policies now in force will open opportunities for the employment of a larger number of Negroes as installers, repairmen, linemen, and other operating jobs. Thomas declared. Veterans with Army training in communication work should be able to qualify for employment with local units of the telephone company, he added, and they should be encouraged to apply for these positions.

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Sun. Constitution Staff Photo—Kenneth Rogers

RUBBERS RUBBIN' FOR LUCK—Rival rubbers, "Po'to Rico," left, of Georgia Tech, and Clegg, of the University of Georgia, rub the football for luck just before the Bulldogs and Yellow Jackets clashed yesterday at Sanford Field. "Po'to Rico" has been helping keep the Jackets fit since 1909, while Clegg has been rubbing down the Bulldogs since 1911. It was Clegg's day to be happy yesterday as Georgia won. 12-1-41

I PRAY FOR 'EM'

Bulldog Rubber Rubs, Prays; Tech's Rubs

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 12-1-46

By HAROLD MARTIN,
Constitution Staff Writer.

MEMORIAL HALL DRESSING ROOM, ATHENS, Nov. 30—Clegg works by prayer, Po'to Rico by the laying on of hands. Over in the Georgia dressing room Clegg was getting into his black silk pants with the red stripe down the leg, the red sweatshirt and the crimson hat. Over in the Tech quarters, Po'to Rico was rubbing the soreness out of the halfback's stiff thigh-muscles.

"Yes suh," said Clegg. "I been here since I was a little bitty boy. I'm 'bout 48 years old now, and I been here ever since I could remember. I tote water to 'em and I rub 'em down. Then, when the whistle blow and the kick-off goes, I pray for 'em. Yes sir. I tell the Lawd to listen to old Clegg and smile on his boys. Sometime He do and sometime He don't. But every time the prayer is right, He answers hit. I can tell when its magic work on him. I take 'em in my hands and rub 'em and the stren'th flows back into the muscle."

Po'to Rico has been rubbing the Engineers even longer than Clegg has been toting water to the Georgians. Clegg started in officially in 1911. Po'to Rico in 1909.

right. It feel good inside. Yes sir. It feel good inside."

Clegg, it seems, does not confine his praying merely to Saturday afternoon. An earnest member of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, he prays on Sunday, too.

Po'to Rico, on the other hand, is not much at prayer.

"I do mine," he says, "with these here two hands. They come in all so' and stiff and look like they can't hardly go and I let the

Vets Seek Truman's Aid on Chicago Cab Question

afro American, Sat 2-25-46
Baltimore, Md

WASHINGTON (AFRO National Bureau)—The aid of President Truman and the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice is being sought by representatives of the Illinois Cab Drivers Association to help them win the right to earn a living.

According to John J. Patrick, president, and Louis Beebee, secretary-treasurer, the association is being frozen out by a three-way monopoly which cornered all of the available taxicab permits while the independent drivers, all veterans, were fighting the war.

Moreover, they warned in an interview here, if they are unable to get any satisfaction from Federal officials, they plan to picket the Capitol, the White House and the Veterans' Administration with a 100-cab picket line.

Cab Permits Frozen

Through a political maneuver, the officials charge, the taxicab ceiling in Chicago was placed at 3,000 cabs, of which the Yellow Cab Company has 1,595, and the Checker Cab Company 1000.

This leaves only 405 to be divided among all of the independent companies of the city, but to make matters worse, the spokesmen charge, the Yellow and Checker Cab Companies are not actually rivals but are owned by the same people, making a complete monopoly.

Of the 405 available permits, only 240 have been given colored drivers, while neither the Yellow nor Checker Cab Companies employ colored drivers.

Bought 100 Vehicles

Upon their return, the veterans, finding themselves frozen out of their old jobs, organized and purchased 107 passenger cars which their 200 members own jointly and operate in shifts.

They also purchased all State licenses and qualified under the indemnity laws, but have been unable to obtain the $5 city taxi permits.

In addition, the two contend, the Chicago courts unfairly granted an injunction to the Yellow Cab Company, restraining the Illinois Association from using 250 permits for veterans which had been allotted by the Municipal Council.

Sat 2-25-46

They also accuse the company of refusing to hand over to Chicago authorities 234 unused taxi permits which the council had ordered returned.

1,800 Vets

Already they have suffered 1800 arrests in 39 days of operation, they recall, and have filed suit for an injunction to prevent molestation from the police. However, the injunction was denied.

They charged further that they have been unable to receive any aid from Rep. William L. Dawson and have, as a result, requested Rep. Adam Powell of New York to intercede on their behalf in Washington.

Dawson's antipathy, they say, is due to his personel interest in the Red and Ivory Taxi Company, a ghost organization into which all of the taxi drivers on the South Side pay tribute for political protection.

According to Patrick, testimony presented a test case brought by the veterans disclosed that the independent companies paid huge sums into the Red and Ivory company, extracted on the basis of 10 cents per shift.

With each of the 234 cabs making three shifts they add the amount totaled around $70 per day or better than $2,000 per month.

Chicago postal employee promoted

Los Angeles Tribune Cal.

CHICAGO—Henry A. Woodson, employee in the Chicago post office for more than 22 years, last week became the first Negro here to be appointed a postal field foreman. In his new job, Woodson will test the efficiency of carriers, analyze their districts, and evaluate each carrier under his supervision.

Sat. 5-25-46

First Negro Sanitary Trustee Takes Office

The Call Kansas City, Mo
Fri. 12-13-46

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — The first Negro trustee of the Cook County Sanitary District board was officially inducted into office here Tuesday during a Republican ceremony in the sanitary district board's headquarters in the Pure Oil building.

Dr. J. B. Martin, owner of the American Giants baseball team and president of the Negro American league, was inducted into office along with two white Republicans. Again the GOP had taken the lead over the Democratic party by being the first to elect a Negro to the sanitary district board trusteeship.

Speakers for the occasion included: Gov. Dwight H. Green, Sen. C. Wayland Brooks, John Leonard Eastland and Atty. William E. King, GOP 2nd ward committeeman. Former Congressman Oscar DePriest was among the veteran Republican leaders present.

Martin's position carries a $10,000 yearly salary for a six-year term.

Blind Negroes, Whites Work Together In Chicago Plant

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sun. 7-20-46

Given a chance to prove themselves, 15 blind workers, 11 of whom are Negroes, work side by side in the 20th Century Glove Co., here, without friction or bias, performing their jobs with the same efficiency as unhandicapped workers.

Employment of blind workers in the plant began several years ago. They are hired to "turn in" glove fingers, a job requiring attention and skill.

Production and attendance records of the blind workers have more than justified the faith Charles and Jerome Laden, owners of the business, and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, which was instrumental in their hiring, shared in them. All 15 of the men are members of the ACW. Wages are from 90 cents to $1 an hour.

Of the group, Hubert Hibbler is an accomplished pianist. Another, Stanley Bara, raises canaries as a hobby. A third, James Ciraulo, is a veteran of World War II. He lost his sight in Belgium. Other employees in the plant assist the blind workers by punching time cards and doing other small chores difficult for the sightless men.

The late Sidney Hillman, president of the ACW, maintained for many years that placing of handicapped workers was a duty of the garment industry. Before his untimely death he had asked clothing manufacturers to place handicapped war veterans.

Western Union Employs First Negro Messengers

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-28-46

GARY—For the first time in the history of the local Western Union, two Negro boys have been employed as uniformed messengers.

Culminating weeks of correspondence with H. E. McCandeles, district sales manager at Indianapolis, two local churchmen won victories for employment of Kermit Hopkins, 18, and Richard Comer, 17, 1734 Jefferson. Hopkins, who was graduated in the upper one-tenth of the class at Froebel last year, is employed full-time as uniformed messenger and Comer part-time during the evenings. The latter is a senior at Washington High School.

Congratulations on opening a wedge in the local WU's hitherto biased policy goes to the Rev. J. Claude Allen, CME Kingdom Extention director, and D. G. Lewis, pastor of Galilee Baptist Church, who asked McCandeles for a chance for Negroes in his company's employ.

21h 1946

Iowa

JAMES W. RHONE

Guard-fireman at the main United States post office building in downtown Des Moines is James W. Rhone of 1415 Maryland, who has held this job for six years.

Civil service employment, Mr. Rhone is the only Negro who serves in that capacity at the building. He started at the post office as a custodian and worked up to his present employment.

As guard he wears the regular post office patrolman's uniform of navy blue, cap, carries gun and billy. He checks vaults to see if they are locked, keeps the lobby free of disturbances or night sleepers, and does his fireman's work, too. He is expecting another promotion—which will make him post office guard.

Native of Texas, Mr. Rhone was reared in Stillwater, Okla., from where he was called into the army of World War I. After the war he came to Des Moines to visit a brother, got employment here at the Rock Island railroad company and worked in various local hotels.

Active in the Lincoln Post 126 of the American Legion, Mr. Rhone is a member of the Corinthian Baptist church, active in the Brotherhood, Inc., senior deacon in North Star Lodge No. 2, Chief Rabban in Zied Temple No. 90 of the Shrine; second lieutenant in the Consistory; represents North Star Lodge as a trustee in the Temple Association.

He resides with his wife, Mrs. Myoredyeen Rhone, to whom he will be married 29 years this June. They have two children, David Rhone, veteran of World War II, and Mrs. Blossom Brewton of Chicago.

Mr. Rhone likes his work—"just fine." "It is not a slave-driving place—and everyone treats you so well," he added.

The Iowa Bystander

LUCIUS A ASHBY

Polk County Deputy sheriff and a fingefprint specialist in the bureau of identification of the county jail is Lucius A. Ashby of 1331 Park Ave.

At the county jail this week, Mr. Ashby was busy, more so than ever, he said, making fingerprints of applicants of persons who seek permits to carry guns. Every person who carries a gun now, must be fingerprinted, he said.

Persons arrested and charged with felonies and misdemeanors are fingerprinted in his department, as well as persons who want to be fingerprinted for identification, the Lewis System or civil service jobs.

Along with the business of identification, added to fingerprinting, is photography, the mugging of suspects; the shooting of pictures at crime scenes, and, the investigation of handwriting cases.

In the fingerprinting department since 1933, Mr. Ashby handles files which contain about 25,000 sets of fingerprints.

When he began working in the department, he had no knowledge of this business of fingerprinting—but with study and constant reading of all the books he could find about his work, he increased his knowledge and his work to become "valuable evidence" in cases of Polk County.

One important factor in his work is the ability to deal with all kinds of persons, he said and added that he had "read more psychology" in the last ten years than he did while he was in school.

Commenting on the business of fingerprinting, Mr. Ashby said that most people are interested in it as a hobby. He knew of about six Negroes in the country who are engaged in that type of work in connection with legal departments. The fingerprinting association does not permit Negroes to become members, he said.

He received his first appointment in the Polk County jail by the then Sheriff C. F. Keeling, and was reappointed in 1939 by the present Sheriff Vane (Pip) Overturff.

A native of Leavenworth, Kan., he was reared in Iowa, graduated from East High school of the city; attended South Dakota University and Penn College at Oskaloosa, preparing for the career of an athletics' coach. He coached one year at Penn College.

A veteran of World War I, he served ten months in France. The father of four children, Mr. Ashby resides with his wife, Ruth. He is a member of the American Legion and the Corinthian Baptist church.

21h 1946

Kentucky

Porter, 71, Is Subject of Mild Feud Between Union and Store Manager

Courier-Journal

Window Washing Draws Objection

Louisville, Ky.

Seventy-one-year old John Allen just goes on a-washing his windows, indifferent to the fact that he is the subject of a mild feud between the Window Washers Union No. 8 0and W. H. Berry, local manager, Hanover Shoe Company.

Berry complained in a letter to the editor that his store was being picketed by the union because he employed Allen, "a colored porter who has washed our windows for 27 years." He said yesterday he had offered "to pay Allen's way into the union, but union officials refused."

Cares for Invalid Wife.

Allen does odd jobs in the morning for a half dozen Fourth street firms and returns to his home at 110 West Walnut as soon as possible when his chores are finished to care for his invalid wife. He is a veteran of the Spanish-American War, and is deaf. 9-4-46

"I'm a retired union man myself," Allen replied to a scribbled query yesterday. "I used to be a hod-carrier, but I can't do that kind of work no more. Unions are all right—but the Window Washers Union don't want me—I'm too old."

Union Side Presented.

Chester Gill, 2539 Duncan, business agent for the union, presented the union side of the issue.

According to Gill, the Window Washers Union used to do practically all the window cleaning along Fourth Street; that he himself "personally washed the Hanover windows in 1941."

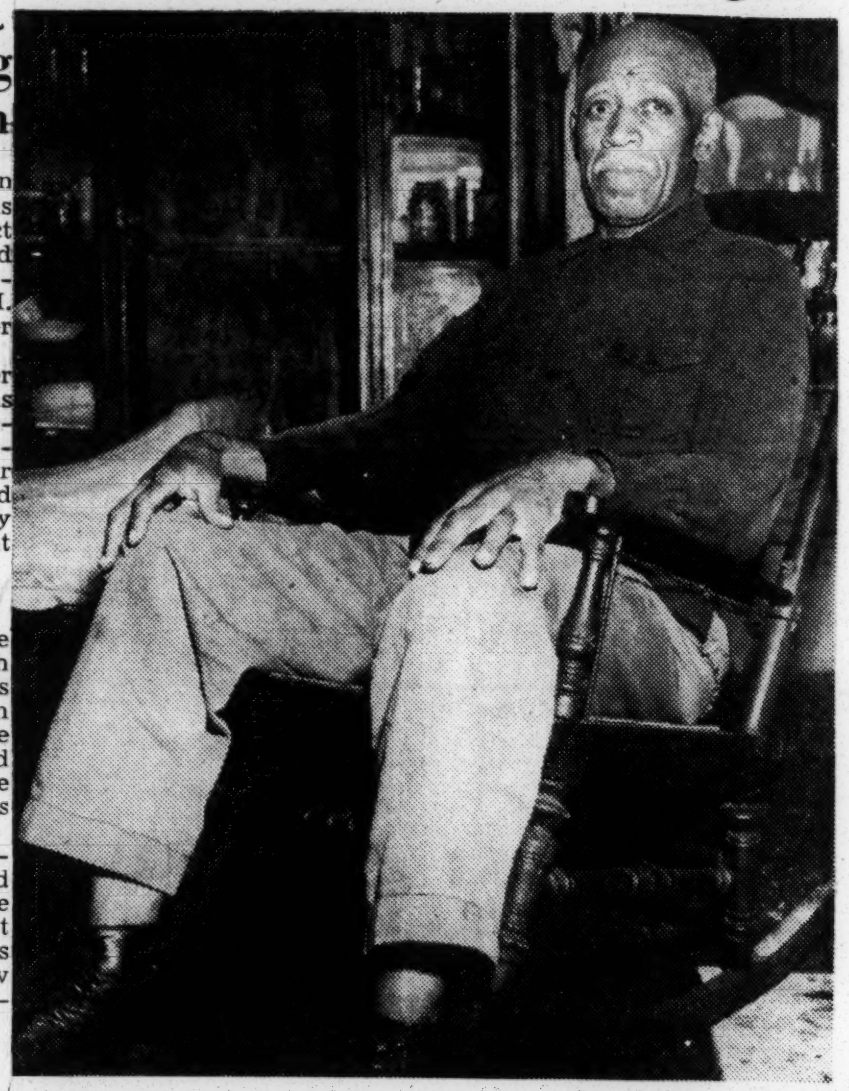
"Mr. Berry is mistaken about the colored man doing the window washing for 27 years," he declared. "He might have been a porter around the place, but he wasn't washing windows from 1938 to 1941 to my knowledge."

Says Allen 'Too Old.' wd.

Gill explained that in 1941 the union's charter was taken away temporarily "due to a little misunderstanding." And it was only in July of this year that it was reinstated.

"I'm working hard organizing the union again," he said. Gill said Allen could be accepted as a porter in the union, but not as a window washer. Allen is too old for that type of work, he said, explaining that it takes about four years to train a man to be a competent window cleaner—"not just somebody who puts water on and wipes it off a window." Union porters get from 85 cents to $1 an hour while window washers get from $1.15 to $1.35 an hour. 9-4-46

Gill said he had great sympathy for veterans—that his two sons had served in the Navy, "but people must support the union."



Courier-Journal Photo.

RESTING AND ROCKING after his chores are done, John Allen, 71, of 110 West Walnut, isn't worried about being the subject of a controversy between the Window Washers Union No. 80 and "management."

21h 1946

Louisiana

New Orleans (La.) Time
Aug. 11, 194

Big Names? Waiter's Met Many in 50 Years at Club

When Hermann the Great plucked dollars out of cabbages at the French Market, William Harris, 72-year-old Negro waiter at the Boston Club, was at the magician's side.

When Sarah Bernhardt toured New Orleans during the '90s, it was William Harris who explained the sights to her in French, for the great tragedienne spoke little English. Celebrities have been the usual thing in his unusual life.

He has talked with Presidents Grant, McKinley, and Franklin D. Roosevelt; watched Jim Corbett, John L. Sullivan, and Jack Johnson in the ring; known most of Tulane's football heroes, served champagne to New Orleans Carnival kings for over 45 years and seen the world's greatest actors.

At 21, he was working for the old Varieties Club, situated beneath the Grand Opera House on Canal street. Now he is completing 50 years of service at the Boston Club. He says he studied Latin and French at Straight university, then on Canal street between Tonti and Rocheblave, and was graduated in 1896.

ALL BUSINESS

In the days of the Varieties Club, he remembers Canal street was unpaved, horses and carriages had no parking problem and "people knew how to enjoy life." The Grand Opera House was the only theater in the South able to pay the fees of the greatest actors, who played a week or more at a time, he said. There were no one-night stands.

"The greatest English actor I ever saw was Richard Mansfield," says William. "He could play a different character every night, plus two matinees a week. But he was strictly business. There was no talking or joking in the wings when he was on stage."

"Mansfield demanded perfection," he continued. "If a scene showed the family at dinner, every item of a full meal had to be on the table, cooked exactly right. Once he staged a paralytic stroke so realistically that women in the audience screamed."

As for Hermann the Great, he wanted William Harris to accompany him on tour of the country, as an assistant, because both spoke French and Hermann said that would help the magic" materially. But the veteran club waiter said he liked his job too well to leave.

He described Grant, whom he met at the Boston Club, as "an ordinary man," and Franklin D. Roosevelt, whom he showed through the place, as "a nice fellow, who asked whether the club was named after the New England city. I explained to him that the name came from an old card game nobody remembers how to play."

Photo by The Times-Picayune.

WILLIAM HARRIS

. . . regrets rusty Latin.

QUALITY WANES

Bernhardt made New Orleans audiences laugh and cry, though her lines were spoken in French, not understood by many of her listeners, said Harris. Her greatest successes here were scored as Cleopatra and Camille, he said.

The quality of millionaires has lessened in the past 50 years, he opined. "The old connoisseurs knew how to live, what to eat, and what to drink. They could enter the kitchen, instruct the chef, and produce dishes that would make your tongue fall out." Nowadays, he says, too many of them have stomach trouble.

Having served as caterer on innumerable special football excursion trains, waiter to the wealthy, and translator for the famous, Harris has but one minor regret.

His Latin, which once he could read and write fluently, is getting somewhat rusty, he sighs.

559th TC Port Company Dares Death to Unload German Mustard Gas Bombs

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-24-46

Given Job on SS Francis Lee at Arsenal After Stevedore Unions Brand Work Hazardous

By PEYTON GRAY

EDGEWOOD ARSENAL, Md.—In unloading the 600 tons of highly poisonous German mustard gas bombs from a "death" ship here, crews of the crack 559th TC Port Company are risking their lives earning the soldier's basic pay of $2.50 to $3.80 per day for a job civilian stevedores shunned at $40 a day.

The ship, a liberty freighter, the SS Francis L. Lee, is anchored in the Bush River about six miles off the Edgewood Arsenal dock.

The assignment is so dangerous and grueling that the men, wearing impregnated clothing from the skin out and gas masks, work in four-hour shifts. They are given several rest intervals while on duty.

Observe Minute Precautions

They ride to and from the large vessel in a motor launch, regularly sprayed with a decontaminating fluid, and shed their impregnated clothing at the water's edge.

This clothing includes heavy woolen socks and winter underwear, heavy one-piece jumper suits, a thick hood, woolen gloves, canvass leggings and regulation Army shoes, all of which are treated with a special mixture.

Everyone wears a gas mask while participating in the unloading and whenever within close range of the triple-distilled gas bombs.

Bomb Seams May Split

The operation is in four steps Bombs weighing from 500 to 1000 pounds each are lifted from the holds of the ship to a barge towed to shore, loaded onto flat cars and taken to [illegible]-door storage dump.

Personnel are constantly warned to keep their gloves and gas masks on while handling the bombs because of the danger of leakage.

Lt. William L. Muth, security officer, explained that the bomb shells are one-quarter of an inch thick; but that their seams were welded lightly and they might split open.

Army security officers inspect each of the bombs before they are bound together in pairs, pulled by a power winch from the belly of the ship and lowered onto a barge.

Detailed training and valuable experience are clearly shown by the manner in which these men do their work in the various phases of the assignment.

As each shift changes, the men strip down wherever they are working, step under a mobile shower for a vigorous bath and don regulation work clothes to return to camp.

Doctor Always on Hand

Army officials and members of the press viewed the operation on the second and third days of the transfer, also clad in impregnated clothing. They, too, were cautioned to adhere to the safety precautions.

A medical officer remains aboard the ship throughout the day and an ambulance is parked at the dock in case of need.

Lieutenant Muth stated that should one of the bombs start leaking, it would be placed on a special barge covered with chemically treated sand and towed a safe distance away for disposal.

No Casualties to Date

Should some of the liquid gas fall on a worker's clothing, that portion of the garment would be ripped off and the man treated immediately, the officer stated.

It was recalled that 50 injuries and several fatalities occurred during the recent unloading of the first such ship, in Mobile, Ala. They were attributed to the fact that inexperienced labor was employed.

Lieutenant Muth said, here, however, that the first three days of work were without an accident.

It is expected that the entire job will take about 20 days, after which the bombs will be studied by chemical warfare experts.

Ship in U.S. Weeks

The SS Francis Lee reached this country from Antwerp, Belgium, several months ago and was to have been unloaded in Charleston, S.C.

When officials of that city protested about the potential danger from its cargo, the vessel was towed to Mobile, Ala. There, civilian stevedores began the task of unloading the bombs.

Union trouble developed, however, when officials of the Mobile local attempted to shift crews daily. The intent was to distribute men on the job daily and ordered the work.

Crack Outfit Assigned

Army officials feared possible danger in having inexperienced the death ship transferred to Maryland.

The 559th Port Company, commanded by Lt. Benjajmin J. Weeks, was given the assignment. It was stationed at the Norfolk Naval Base after serving in the Far East under the Persian Gulf Command in the ETO and in the Pacific.

The men were given special training in handling toxic gas under Lt. Col. Robert M. Gay, chief of the Army's Chemical Warfare Training Corps.

GI's Enjoy Danger

Approximately 85% of the 275 men are members of the original unit, while all of them belong to the Regular Army. The homes of most of them are in the deep South.

Lieutenant Muth said that the company came to Edgewood with an outstanding record and that each member literally begged to be the first man to enter the hold of the ship.

The men have received the highest praise since being on the job, the officer continued, and should complete the assignment with not more than the minimum of accidents.

Salesman Made Manager in Less Than Two Years

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-28-46

BALTIMORE

An unending capacity for work and attention to duty are qualities that have in less than two years lifted William (Ike) Brown of the D.S.&D. Motor Co. from salesman to sales manager in one of the most modern auto stations in the country.

Brown, who resides at 2409 Montello Terrace, began as a salesman with the Dodge-Plymouth dealers in 1933. The company, recognizing his unusual [illegible] nearly completed his car is by sim-

The car owner can find out how [illegible] ply calling the tower where records will show just how far work on the vehicle has progressed.

Radiant heating, through pipes installed in the floor and the latest thing in fluorescent "daylight" illumination are other features of this truly postwar plant.

[illegible] sales ability, has since created a 6-man sales force and promoted him to sales manager, the position he now holds.

D.S.&D. has just opened a newly constructed service station that boasts of 19,000 feet of floor space and all kinds of modern service station innovations.

Mr. Brown takes great pride in these installations, one of which is a "control tower." In this tower, he pointed out, a complete running account is kept on all cars being serviced. 12-28-46

A call is made to the tower whenever a car comes into the station. In less time than it takes to describe the operation, the tower returns a signal as to whether the work can be done immediately or not and how long it will take.

1946 21h

Michigan

A Chance to Make the Grade

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-14-

Michigan's new telephone operators. Left to right, Misses Josephine Taylor, Jacqueline Oliver, Lillian Campbell and Wilhelmina Irvin.

The Michigan Telephone Company recently broke a precedent by hiring four colored telephone operators. Detroit now becomes the third city in the country to employ colored operators—New York and Atlantic City already have them—and to help prove that the color of a person's skin cannot be detected by a mere "Number please?"

Clerks, typists and maintenance men have been on the company payroll. A company spokesman, in making the announcement, stated that the Michigan Telephone Company wanted to prove that race, color and creed were not important factors of employment but that only ability counted.

All during the war years, large cities throughout the country have been fighting for telephone operators.

Baltimore began its fight in 1942 and Pittsburgh followed in 1943. Picketing, radio broadcasts and newspaper advertising helped New York to win its fight.

The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company in Baltimore set up an uptown office and hired clerks in order to sidetrack the FEPC order of President Roosevelt, after loud protests and picketing.

The Michigan operators will be another example of what can be done when a chance is given to make the grade.

Walter Reuther wins fight for Negro fair practices director

DETROIT—Walter P. Reuther, newly-elected president of the United Auto Workers (CIO) union, last week appointed a Negro as co-director of the union's fair practices department over the objections of vice-presidents R. J. Thomas and Richard Leonard and secretary-treasurer George F. Addes.

The man who will have charge of the union's minorities work, assisted by a woman co-director, is William Oliver, who has previously held several lesser UAW offices.

UAW Board Recalls Negro Auditor

DETROIT—Officials of the United Automobile Workers have recalled Alexander Washington to the staff of the International UAW-CIO as an auditor, George F. Addes, secretary-treasurer announced this week.

Total number of Negroes now employed on the international staff is 15. Washington is a member of Ford local 600.

ANNOUNCE PLAN TO HIRE HELP WITHOUT BIAS

Disclose Company Using Other Skilled Workers

The Michigan Bell Telephone Company revealed this week that it is extending Negro employment opportunities in the company to switchboard operator jobs.

A company spokesman said the employment of Negro operators is in line with the company's "overall objective to employ qualified applicants, regardless of race, creed, or color, in all offices where we need new employees."

For some time, opportunities for Negroes in the company have included so-called white-collar jobs such as business office and public contact employees, typists, clerks, and skilled workmen. Although the company's personnel offices do not maintain separate records, company officials estimate that between 200 and 300 Negroes are on Michigan Bell's payroll at the present time. In fact, some employee members of that race are members of the Telephone Pioneers of America, an organization comprised of men and women who have been in the telephone business for 21 or more years.

Four young women were in the vanguard of their race in taking their positions at Michigan Bell switchboards. Assigned to the first jobs at Detroit central offices were Misses Lillian Campbell, Jacquelin Oliver, Wilhelmina Irvin, and Josephine Taylor.

With early hirings scheduled at other points, the official said Negro women will be employed as operators throughout the company's territory as the need for such help arises and as they qualify for such duties. He made it plain that the company is placing no arbitrary limitation on the number of Negro operators it will employ.

Selected On Qualifications

The spokesman pointed out that operators are selected as the result of interviews in which aptitude, age, education, height, reach, health, and general fitness for work are considered. Graduation from high schools has been regarded as the minimum educational requirement.

Negro employees have the same salary and training opportunities and use the same facilities as all employees on the jobs for which they qualify. In the matter of compensation, the job classification is controlling for wages or salaries.

4 Telephone Operators Hired by Mich. Bell Co.

DETROIT (ANP)—Four girls, Misses Lillian Campbell, Jacqueline Oliver, Wilhelmina Irvin and Josephine Taylor, were accepted as switchboard operators in the local central offices of the Michigan Bell Telephone Co., here, last week.

According to a company spokesman, their employment is in line with the company's "overall objective to employ qualified applicants regardless of race, creed, or color in all offices where we need new employees."

21h 1946

Mississippi

Preference For Negro Labor Blamed In Ship Job Layoffs

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

PASCAGOULA, MISS., March 23.—(AP)—Three thousand of Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation's 5,000 employes are being laid off as the result of an unsettled work stoppage by some 50 crane operators, W. R. Guest, executive vice president, announced today.

"That number will be told not to report for work Monday, and the layoff of the remaining 2,000 will probably begin on that day," Guest said.

His announcement followed a statement by C. W. Earl, business manager of local 625, operating engineers (AFL), that the union's executive board had rejected a settlement proposal by the company.

Sun 3-24-46

The company and union agreed that the stoppage, which began Thursday, stemmed from the continued employment of about 10 Negro crane operators since the layoff of several white crane operators.

Both sides announced that a conference between company and union representatives would be held next Tuesday, with an international representative of the union attending.

Earl reported that the union had turned down a company offer to replace two of the Negro operators by two white operators formerly employed by the company "while the Negroes take a one-week vacation."

"We find that we are not justified in relieving the Negro operators to take a vacation," Earl declared.

Guest said the company had offered to put the two white men to work "indefinitely" while negotiations on the dispute were in progress and that places could be made for them temporarily by having two Negro operators take vacations.

The company vice president reported that "nothing can be moved in the yard with the crane operators out. Not a crane or a switch engine is operating. The only means we have for moving anything is by truck and by hand."

Work on 10 of 14 ships being constructed at the yard has been halted by the stoppage, Guest said.

He also declared that a fire and safety hazard has been created by debris which cannot be moved from ships on which work was underway.

The union spokesman said the union is demanding work for at least three of 16 white operators who have been laid off by the company. Some of the white men have three years' seniority while Negro operators now employed have only six months to a year of service, Earl asserted.

Guest said that no seniority provisions were contained in the company-union contract.

"We are not asking that any Negro with the proper seniority be taken off the job," Earl said.

The union official reported that the union also is protesting what he described as a company policy of switching operators from one job to another—jobs of different craft classifications and pay scales —"as the company sees fit" during the same work shift.

Guest said that when layoffs began recently as a result of materials shortages, the company followed the policy of treminating crane operators "according to discontinuance of their job. . . . The layoff had not affected directly the work of these colored operators and none were laid off."

He said the company had attempted to rotate workers "in order that as large a number as possible might continue work, at least on a part-time basis."

21h 1946

New Jersey

Asbury Park Woman Helps Get Radios to Army Units on Time

The American Baltimore, Md. 2-9-46

MISS BLONDIE PERRY

of Asbury Park, N.J., who, as assistant to Signal Corps radio engineers at nearby Ft. Monmouth, helps steer radio parts to final assembly line.

FORT MONMOUTH, N.J.—Assistant to busy Signal Corps radio engineers may not sound like a job you would find a woman doing, but Miss Blonnie Perry of Asbury Park winner of an Army Service Forces civilian award, has handled this important work for three years at the Squire Signal Laboratory here. 2-9-46

The engineers are called upon to develop and design all types of radios for the Signal Corps' vast communications system. When they have worked out the numerous details, Miss Perry takes up the job of turning their drawings and material specifications into the desired product.

Steers Through Lines

It is her job to steer the many parts through the production lines, trying to have them reach the state of final assembly at the same time. Then inspections and tests come before shipment to the four corners of the earth.

Miss Perry's home, prior to coming to Asbury Park about 10 years ago, was Wendeln, N.C. She studied at Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C., and received a bachelor of science degree.

Hobbies Feminine

Her hobbies, typically feminine, are sewing, dressmaking and designing. Like many with a hobby, she hopes some day to enter this field on a full-time basis. When not on duty at Squire Laboratory, and not in the mood for her hobbies, Miss Perry turns to books and magazines for relaxation.

NNC, FEPC Break New Bias Policy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-26-46

TRENTON, N.J.—With the announcement by Marcel Scherer district representative, United Electrical Workers, CIO, that the Westinghouse plant here was again hiring colored women, the Trenton Council of the National Negro Congress has won the first round in their fight to crack the Westinghouse Jim-Crow policy.

Westinghouse employed colored women in their Trenton plant during the war Recently, however the company conducted a campaign for additional female help, and set up a central hiring office in town, in conjunction with the USES.

700 Whites Hired

Although 700 new workers were hired since June 1st, 1946, nearly 500 of them from cities outside of Trenton, no additional colored women were hired, despite the fact that there were many colored women applicants.

The Trenton Council of the NNC brought this to the attention of Walt Criscuola, president of U.E. Local 443, who investigated the situation and then filed charges against Westinghouse with the N.J. FEPC. Backed up by the NNC, and the Inter-Racial Committee of Trenton, the union carried on an intensive campaign with the result that the Westinghouse plant has now hired all but one of the colored girls who applied for the jobs.

1946 21h New York

SCAD's Phone Co. Report Backed by Urban League

PM, New York, N.Y.
Tuesday 6-4-46

The Urban League of Greater New York yesterday backed up the State Commission Against Discrimination's partial exoneration of the New York Telephone Co. on charges of bias against Negroes in employment.

A spokesman for the League said that shortly after the company began hiring Negroes for the first time, in December of 1944, the League found that the firm was rejecting only 15 per cent of the Negro applicants as unqualified, while the average of rejections among whites was 25 per cent.

James M. Wolf, chairman of the employment subcommittee of the Citizens City-Wide Committee on Harlem, was somewhat less enthusiastic about the State Commission's findings. Daily

"The City-Wide Committee is gratified at any sign of activity on the part of the Commission," he said, "and gratified also that a large public utility is following a policy of decency in employment. However, we do believe that the cases of discrimination in private industry which have come before the Commission are only a fraction of 1 per cent of all existing cases. It would please us to see the Commission unearth some aggravated instance of discrimination in industry and take whatever legal steps are necessary to correct the abuse." New York, N.Y.

The State Commission, in disclosing that it had found no cause for prosecuting the phone company in seven out of 10 cases complained of, and that only one case appeared to have "probable cause" while the remaining two were still under investigation, had said:

"The New York Telephone Co. employs upward of 300 colored girls as switchboard operators and clerks. The New York Urban League, as well as this commission, has verified the policy of integration which the New York Telephone Co. has pursued since December, 1944, when they first employed colored girls." 6-4-46

A representative of the Urban League of Greater New York confirmed this statement for PM. She said the League had found, when the company began employing Negroes, that while 15 per cent of the Negro applicants were rejected as unfit, the average of rejections among whites was 25 per cent.

The State Commission revealed that Carl Whitmore, president of the phone company, had notified the 2000 employes in the employment department recently that they were to hire applicants "without regard to race, creed, color or national origin." The Commission was gratified to point out that it had received no complaints of discrimination against Jews by the company. 6-4-46

Top Flight Executive Tells Story Of Success

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-19-46

That good race relations are nothing more than good human relations is a major lesson he has learned, Lemuel L. Foster, uniquely successful assistant personnel director for Macy's, one of New York's and the world's largest department stores, told the Chicago Defender on a trip here this week.

Probably the first Negro to reach such a high executive position in the business world, Foster's rise to success is the story of triumph after triumph, despite his having started his climb in the hate-hidden South.

At what he considers the climax of his career—his present Macy executive job—he believes he affords an excellent example of the practicality of complete integration. For although he has behind him a 12-year-record of success as a race relations officer, his job at Macy's has nothing to do with race. He is an executive in charge of records which determine promotions. raises and transfers for the firm's 10,800 employees.

Progress Good

Enthusiastic about progress of personnel workers, he says they are among those who have learned that "good human relations mean good relations—it is as simple as that."

The subject of a recent write-up in Fortune magazine, entitled "As It Should Be," Foster was in Chicago on his way home from St. Louis where he was chairman of the industrial relations panel of the National Urban League convention.

He began school at Meridian, Miss.. and later graduated cum laude from Fisk University, majoring in economics and sociology.

Becoming interested in insurance, he eventually became head of the New York branch of Victory Life Insurance company.

In Labor Department

The Labor Department's Division of Negro Economics first brought him in contact with the federal government. Then, for five years, he was New York race relations director of Works Progress Administration under General Somervell. Here 225,000 employees gave reason for keeping abreast of latest techniques in personnel, Foster said.

General Somervell called Foster to Washington as race relations officer of the Army Service Forces. His efficiency commended him to two associates who are now with him at Macy's—James P. Mitchell, director of personnel, and John E. O'Gara, vice president and general manager, who, at the close of the war, recommended him for his present post.

Money-Saving Suggestion Rewarded

William Yates, chef cook in the England General Hospital kitchens, is shown receiving a $50 check from Lt. Col. Aloyous Martin, hospital adjutant, for his suggestion to increase efficiency at the Atlantic City installation. Born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, he has cooked in leading Baltimore, Pittsburgh and New York hotels for 22 years.

Negro Women Used As Professional Models

Interracial Press Service
Sat. 6-29-46

NEW York. — In an unprecedented achievement Neil Scott president of Neil Scott and Associated, announced that the firm is now using both Negro and white models. In the national sewing contest promoted among Negro women this year for the first time, C. M. Black, San Antonio, Texas; and Louise L. Newberry of Bethune-Cookman college, Daytona Beach Florida; tied for first place in the general sewing division.

Two months ago Scott broke the barriers to the modeling profession insofar as Negro women are concerned, when he saw to it that the Spool Cotton Company used Negro models.

6-29-46

In the sewing contest, a first prize of a $100 ringside seat to the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight was won by Bessie Wall of Shaw university. She submitted a set of crochet doilies, and according to the judges they were "almost uncanny in their precision and accuracy of design."

For embroidery Hattie B. Robinson, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Mrs. Robert Banks, Cleveland, Ohio, split first prize.

NEGROES' GAINS CITED

Times New York, N.Y.
Sat. 8-17-46

Urban League Reports Increase in Sales, Clerical Jobs

A considerable increase in employment of Negroes as sales and clerical workers in the retail merchandising field throughout the country is noted in a manual on "Integration of Negroes in Department Stores" by Leroy Jeffries, the National Urban League, 1133 Broadway, reported yesterday.

The manual, based on reports from local leagues and released for Uurban League use, indicates that the greatest gains have been made in New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Sat. 8-17-46

The retail merchandising field, described as late as 1938 as being "barred to Negroes as effectively as if by legislative fiat," is gradually opening new job opportunities to Negroes, Mr. Jeffries says.

Fourteen large merchandise houses in the New York area, he writes, use Negroes as sales and stock clerks, stenographers and personnel executives.

IVES-QUINN LAW PRAISED

The Times New York, N.Y.

Turner Says It Helps Reduce Discrimination in State

Although the Ives-Quinn law against racial and religious discrimination in New York State "has not changed human nature" it is evident that "it has changed employment patterns in a great number of industries", Henry C. Turner, chairman of the State Commission Against Discrimination, said yesterday. Wed. 9-11-46

In welcoming to his office at 124 East Twenty-eighth Street two members of the Massachusetts Fair Employment Practices Commission, which was created last May, Mr. Turner said "there is less discrimination in employment in New York State now than there was in March 1945 when the law was passed."

The representatives from Massachusetts are Mrs. Mildred Mahoney, former executive secretary of the Governor's Committee for Racial and Religious Understanding, and Elwood S. McKenney, veteran of World War II, a graduate of Harvard University.

N.Y. Store Hires First Negro Clerk

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 7-6-46

NEW YORK—An intensive campaign waged by the 99th Street Post of the United Negro and Allied Veterans against the Jim Crow hiring policy of the Safeway Store, 95th and Columbus ave., bore fruit when the store hired its first Negro clerk this week.

William Siler, commander of the UNAVA post declared that "this is bust the first battle in our campaign to break down job discrimination in this area."

"The color of a man's skin shouldn't bar him from a job in civilian life. Many white veterans like myself are joining with our Negro comrades to build UNAVA as the instrument to defeat discrimination against Negro veterans."

The neighborhood Woolworth store is the next establishment to be picketed. Silers announced.

A & P Employes Get Cash For Christmas

The Sun New York, N.Y.

NEW YORK — Compensation totaling approximately $1,750,000 has been distributed to the thousands of employes, both white and Negro, of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company before Christmas, John A. Hartford, president, said this week. Chicago, Ill.

All A. and P. employes with six months or more service with the company participated in the cash distribution. Sat. 12-28-46

Jewish Congress Wins Job Rights For N.Y. Negroes

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-24-46

NEW YORK CITY—As further proof that all minority groups interests are indivisible, the American Jewish Congress organization has placed orders with Jim Crow policy has placed orders for qualified Job applicants with

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. Tues. 7-30-46

Pickets Halt Job Bias: Members of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America picket the A&P supermarket at 169 St. and Boston Rd., Bronx, in protest against the store's refusal to hire unemployed Jewish and Negro veterans. UNAVA won a victory in its fight when this store and another on 163 St. and Third Ave. hired two Negroes each.

Ship Sails As Negro Mate Is Reinstated

8-9-46
C. Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Discrimination' Charge Declared Unfounded

From Wire Dispatches.

The converted freighter Marine Flasher sailed from New York yesterday after a one-day delay caused by a dispute over the firing of a Negro third mate.

The mate, Collin Clarke, declared he had been fired because of "discrimination" and members of the C.I.O.-Marine Cook and Stewards Association refused to sign on, in sympathy with Clarke.

The War Shipping Administration, which owns the Marine Flasher, ordered the reinstatement of the discharged mate Wednesday. The W.S.A. said it had found no discrimination in Clarke's discharge, but ordered the reinstatement on the ground he had the necessary papers to sail as third mate. Friday

The Marine Flasher carried 900 passengers for the Azores, Lisbon and Naples.

Takes New York Post

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 11-23-46

H. GARRICK WILLIAMS, has been appointed director of Special Districts of the Queensboro, N.Y., Tuberculosis and Health Association, according to an announcement by Charles A. Freck, executive director of the association. Mr. Wililams is a graduate of Fisk University, and has done graduate work at that institution and the University of Minnesota. He was formerly vocational appraiser for the Veterans Administration at Fisk, and during the war served as a psychiatric social worker, interviewer, and counsellor for the U.S. Army.

N.Y. Phone Firm Bias Free: SCAD

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Urban League Backs Commission's Report

Sat. 6-15-46

NEW YORK—The New York Telephone Company's policy of integration of its 300 Negro operators won the approval this week of the State Commission Against Discrimination.

The New York Urban League confirmed SCAD's finding that the firm was rejecting only 15 per cent of the Negro applicants as unqualified, while the average rejections among whites was 25 per cent.

The Citizens City-Wide Committee on Harlem withheld complete approval of the report by SCAD. Said James M. Wolf, chairman of the employment subcommittee:

Ask More Probes

"The City-Wide Committee is gratified at any sign of activity on the part of the Commission and gratified also that a large public utility is following a policy of decency in employment.

"However, we do believe that the cases of discrimination in private industry which have come before the Commission are only a fraction of one per cent of all existing cases. It would please us to see the Commission unearth some aggravated instance of discrimination in industry and take whatever legal steps are necessary to correct the abuse."

In its report on the telephone company, the State Commission disclosed that it had found no grounds for prosecution. In 10 cases complained of, only one case appeared to have "probable cause." Two are still under investigation, the Commission said.

Urban League Agrees

Continuing, SCAD stated, "The New York Telephone Co. employs upward of 300 colored girls as switchboard operators and clerks. The New York Urban League, as well as this commission, has verified the policy of integration which the New York Telephone Co. has pursued since December, 1944, when they first employed colored girls."

Broadway Report:

33 Years on One Elevator

P.M. New York, N.Y.
Sun 7-14-46

Al Knight, the tall, thin, dignified man who for 33 years has been running the elevator which takes the great, the near-great and the merely hopeful up to Lee Shubert's office in the Shubert Theater building, retired Friday.

"I'm going to miss that elevator," Al said on his last day on the job. "I'm just crazy about it. I wouldn't leave except for my health."

Al, who is 67, had a stroke five years ago and his legs are beginning to give out. He's going to retire on a pension and his social security and maybe, when he gets a little stronger, get a part-time job.

Practically everybody in show business has taken a trip on Al's elevator. Al Jolson was his favorite customer. Marie Dressler and Nora Bayes also rated high with him. In recent years he's missed the old-timers who are either dead or in Hollywood (or maybe that's redundant).

"The old school were sweeter and nicer than the yong people around today," Al said. "They always had a kind word for Al. Today they're not so democratic. Nowadays people just seem different."

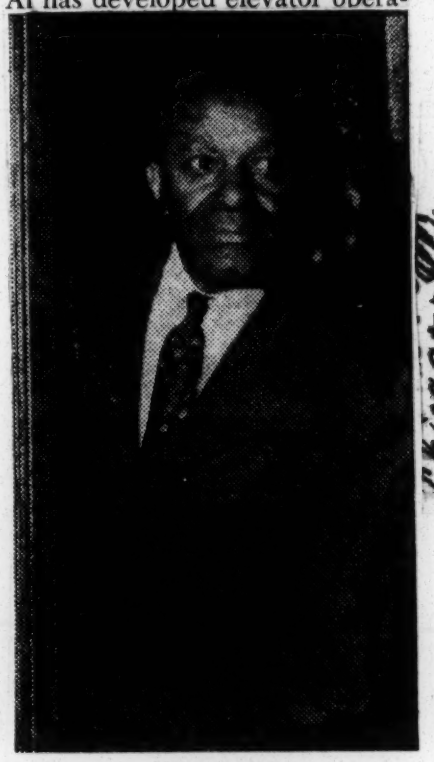
The most consistent traveller with Al has, naturally, been Lee Shubert. Sun 7-14-46

"He's a man of few words," Al said reflectively. "He hardly ever speaks. I can just tell how he feels by his looks. All he'd say was 'Good morning, Al,' or maybe speak of the weather. But he's a grand person. He hasn't said three cross words to me in 33 years."

Al has developed elevator operation to a high art. He knows the ring of everybody in the Shubert building. Not that anyone consciously uses a special ring.

"I know their touch," Al explained. "I made it a study. You ask anybody in the building—they'll tell you, 'Al can tell anybody's touch.'"

—JOHN S. WILSON.



Al Knight
He's not going up any more.
Photo by Morris Gordon, PM

Hats Off!
PM New York, N.Y.
Tues. 10-8-46

The story of Edward Doernberg, jewelry manufacturer who believes longs to the class of employer that there are unlimited opportunities in industry for the disabled worker, by making it is told on page 15.

Because Edward Doernberg resents the kind of employer who not only believes in equal opportunity for the handicapped but puts it into practice too, because he be-

those who might become

Hats Off!

Chicago, Ill.
NEW YORK—The New England Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Michigan Bell Telephone company issued instructions recently that workers will be employed on the basis of qualifications alone, the National Urban League announced last week.

Immediate results of this action was employment of Negro switchboard operators in Detroit exchanges and recruitment of trainees for positions as clerks, steno-

organizations. To those employers who have real

Physically Handicapped Week given National Employ the

PM says:

cally

meaning,

Company Issues Non-Bias Policy

Sat. 11-16-46

21h 1946

White-collar Jobs Open With N.Y. Firms, Says Urban League

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 2-2-46

WASHINGTON — Julius A. Thomas, industrial relations director of the National Urban League, this week urged the Washington unit to inform the public that a strong demand exists for various types of white collar workers in insurance companies, department stores, and telephone companies in New York.

White collar workers displaced from government positions, it is believed, would qualify for these openings.

Adequate information on these openings can be supplied by L. E. Beane, industrial secretary, Washington Urban League, 1638 New Jersey Ave., N.W.

Positions Filled

Efforts of industries to jump the gun on the new State FEPC which was effective January of this year created this demand.

R. H. Macy's, largest department store in the world, has hired number of workers in a wide range of occupations, including sales personnel, with Lemuel Foster, formerly of the War Department, employed as a junior personnel executive at $5.000 per year to work on the problem.

Insurance Jobs

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has employed Franklin Nichols, formerly of the National Urban League, in a top capacity to recruit, screen and train colored workers.

Within the next month, the Metropolitar Life, it is believed, plans to hire 200 colored clerks. Telephone companies are also in the field for workers.

The Bus Line

P. M. New York 1-28-46

The Fifth Avenue Coach Company has hired five Negroes to drive buses on Fifth Ave., for the first time since the company started in 1889. A company spokesman said it would have had Negro drivers before, but none had applied for jobs until 1941, when there were no vacancies.

reporter, he said he was happy and proud to pioneer in a more or less virgin field of business. Evans said he was a conductor on the subway lines and being a junior employe the veterans returning were given preference and he in turn secured this new avenue of business.

5 Hired to Drive 5th Ave. Busses

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 2-2-46

NEW YORK—The Fifth Avenue Coach Co. Sunday night upgraded colored garage and maintenance employees to become drivers of double-deck Fifth Ave. busses, the first since the company entered business in 1889.

One of the men Thomas R. Lee of 137 Washington Ave., is breaking in this week on a run, while the other four are still in the maintenance department until suitable replacements for them in this work are found.

"We can't let all of the men break in on the busses at the present time, until we can find others to take their places in the maintenance department," a company spokesman told the AFRO.

104 on Other Lines

"Although this is the first time we have had colored men on the double-decker busses," he said, "we have 104 colored operators in our affiliated New York City Omnibus Co. Some have been there since 1941."

Asked why no colored drivers had been hired before 1941 the company official said that none had applied and there had been no vacancies on the Fifth Ave. line since 1939. 2-2-46

Workers Must Apply for Jobs

Edmund C. Collins, vice president of the company, announced Saturday that henceforth drivers on all lines will come from employees working in lesser capacities in the company.

"Colored men," he said, "will have as much chance for promotion on a merit basis as any others, provided they apply."

The new drivers in addition to Mr. Lee are. John T. Randall of 365 W. 119th St.; James Miles of 219 Edgecombe Ave.; James W. and Samuel D. Howell of 258 W. 117th

Ella Fitzgerald Stops Boycotting Busses When Negro Drivers Are Hired

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

ELLA FITZGERALD

NEW YORK.— Ella Fitzgerald, "first lady of song" has ended her self-imposed one woman boycott of the Fifth Avenue buses here since the big transportation outfit changed its employment policy and hired a Negro driver three weeks ago. Fri 2-22-46

Said the singer when interviewed in her apartment, "In these turbulent times when jobs are all important, especially to my people the installation of a liberal employment policy by a key corporation such as the Fifth Avenue bus company is significant and deserves the hearty commendation of every fairminded person. With the FEPC legislation strangled in Washington, the local problem becomes more important than ever. I hope more of the big companies will follow suit."

Interracial Assembly Line. Group of employes in the Minerva radio manufacturing plant, NY, where not only is the hiring of workers from minority groups democratically handled, but a closed shop contract with United, Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers' of America guarantees wages and job security. L to R front row, Mrs. Katherine Griffine, supervisor over inspection department; Bryce Porter, shop chairman; Connie Pellegrino, Ruby Tong; Elouise Matthews, shop steward; Margaret Dapolito, Gladys Diaz; rear, Sam Chinn. Abe Silverman.

Negro Operates Subway News Stand In N. Y.

Houston, Texas Informer

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Alert Frank Evans, a Birmingham lad now living in Harlem, is the first Negro to be in charge of a subway news stand. He operates at the 125th street center, one of the busiest of the Eighth Avenue Independent subway lines.

When he was approached by the

N. Y. Signs Up Five Negro Bus Drivers

1-2-46 Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 ((NNPA) —Five colored men were assigned last week to drive Fifth Avenue buses, the first non-white drivers to be hired by the Fifth Avenue Coach Company since it was established in 1889, Edmund C. Collins, vice-president, disclosed yesterday.

"This is not a revolution in company policy," Mr. Collins said. "We have never discriminated against Negroes. We would have hired Negroes on a merit basis in competition with whites at any time in the company's history. However, until 1941 no Negro ever applied to work for us as a driver."

The Fifth Avenue Coach Company, parent corporation of three other city lines, the New York Omnibus Corporation, the Madison Avenue Coach Company and the Eighth Avenue Coach Company, is the last of those concerns to employ colored drivers, "solely because on Fifth Avenue we have had no vacancies for drivers since 1939, until we hired these men last week," Mr. Collins said.

Colored men have been driving on the other three lines since 1941, when they first applied for the work, he added. 1-31-46

The new Fifth Avenue bus drivers, all promoted from the company's garage at 605 West 132d Street, are Thomas R. Lee, of 137 Washington Avenue, the bronx started their training period last week.

Negro Drivers Start Training On 5th Avenue Buses After 57 Year Ban

NEW YORK — Negro drivers are now employed by the four leading bus firms—the New York Omnibus Corp., Madison Avenue Coach Co., Eighth Avenue Coach Co., and the Fifth Avenue Coach Co. The last three will begin their training period as soon as they are released from garage work. The new additions on the Fifth Ave. bus company officials denied that all upgraded from garage. They are using Negro drivers was the result of any pressure from the company's garage, 137 Washington ave., route were all promotions. Thomas R. Lee, 137 Washington ave., James W. Miles, of 219 Edgecombe Ave.; James W. Myers, of 2488 Seventh Ave., and Samuel D. Howell, of 258 W. 117th st., who completed his training period last week; John T. Randall, of 365 West 119th Street, who started his training period last Wednesday; James Miles, of 219 Edgecombe Avenue; James W. Myers, of 2488 Seventh Avenue, and Samuel D. Howell, of 258 West 117th Street. The last three who completed his training period this week; John T. Randall, 365 W. 119th st., who started his training Wednesday; James Miles, 219 Edgecombe ave.; James W. Myers, 2488 Seventh Ave., and Samuel D. Howell, 258 W. 117th st. 2-2-46

IN DOWNTOWN OFFICE: Miss Marjorie Cachie, Brooklyn born daughter of Trinidad parents, is the first Negro girl to be hired by the Peerless Camera Store on East 44th Street. Miss Cachie doubles from the cashiers desk to the upstairs office and likes her work. She came to Peerless one month ago after finishing her work as a typist-clerk with the government.

CHARLIE MAE MORGAN AND LORA ROLLS

Jimcrow Nipped at Bloomingdale's

2 NEGRO GIRLS GET QUICK, EFFECTIVE UNION ACTION

Misses Charlie Mae Morgan and Lora Rolls scored a signal victory over Jimcrow at Bloomingdale's Department Store

The two young ladies were dismissed in what looked like routine layoffs. However, they knew it was discrimination, they were not members of the union and did not know what to do. Miss Morgan said, **"We didn't know exactly where to go, but we knew we needed help—so, we came to the union."**

Business Manager Samuel Lewis assured them it was a routine lay-off. According to the seniority rules it was justified. There were still Negroes working there. This was a few days before they became eligible for union membership, but they were determined to win. So they insisted and the union decided to look into theh matter.

It was discovered that one worker, a white girl, hired about the same time as these two Negroes were still there, and had been transferred to another department. Checking the newspapers of the time the young ladies were hired, it was found that Bloomingdale's was advertising for help of all kinds at that time.

It was now clear that this was a case of discrimination. A meeting of the grievance committee was called. They took the problem to the management. They told the management that they would appeal to the Fair Employment Practices Committee. The management asked for time to think it over.

Later the union was informed that the management upon close examination found the charge correct. It found that the company record matched the claims of the two, and that discrimination had been, unwittingly, practiced. The company offered reinstatement of the two women. The union maintained that the women be offered the jobs they had applied for. Management agreed.

Miss Morgan is now working in housedress selling. Miss Rolls is on the telephone order board.

"Seems to me we've really set precedent here by winning more than reinstatement," said Miss Morgan. "I think the union is wonderful," said Miss Rolls.

Break Color Bar To Fashion Models

Young Negro women interested in modeling are asked to send photos of themselves to Neil Scott and Associates, 400 Manhattan Ave. Age, height, weight and clothing sizes should be submitted.

At the suggestion of Scott's public relations firm, the Spool Cotton Corp. is now using Negro models for fashion pictures. Scott says he will continue campaigning to break down all barriers which bar Negro women from following careers in modeling and other allied professions of the clothing industry.

Chelsea Consumers Get Better Job for Negro Vet

New York

Editor, Daily Worker:

There is a Negro ex-serviceman serving behind the counter in our neighborhood grocery because of the activity carried on by a handful of housewives on our block in Chelsea.

The vet, lured through a newspaper ad for a clerk, was being used as a deliveryman though he made up telephone orders, figured out bills, took payment and gave change. A few Communist housewives reminded the grocer that a delivery job was a blind alley for a vet and suggested that he be put to work behind the counter.

The grocer first agreed but then stalled. Later, when pressed, he told us: "I'd like to, but you don't know my customers. They'd never stand for it." We talked to a few other housewives and they pressed the issue. The man got the job and a new delivery man was hired.

Yesterday, with the vet waiting on customers just like any other clerk, the grocer came from behind the counter and thanked us. "I'm glad I did it," he told us. "There ought to be more customers like you." He's proud of himself now, because he took the step.

I'm writing to tell you about this, not because it's world-shaking, but because it's the type of thing that can be done in all other neighborhoods, side by side with bigger struggles.

D. MILLSTONE

AFL UNION KAYOES JIMCROW AT WALDORF-ASTORIA HOTEL

NEW YORK—The Waldorf-Astoria has hired Negro banquet waiters for the first time in its 53-year-old history, it was revealed this week.

The Employment Department of Local 6, Hotel and Club Employees Union, AFL, responding to a call from the Waldorf for banquet waiters, sent Negro members, in line with the union policy of breaking down discrimination where it still exists in hotel dining rooms.

For the first time in its 53-year history, the Waldorf-Astoria is hiring Negro waiters for banquet jobs.

The reason: the Waldorf recently signed a contract with Hotel & Club Employes Local 6.

Responding to a call for waiters from the hotel, the union sent Negroes, in line with its policy of breaking down discrimination wherever it exists in hotel dining rooms.

The Negroes were hired and are now at work.

M. J. Obermeier, Local 6 president, and Charles A. Collins, vice-president, hailed the development as "an historic achievement."

The rave sensation at New York's Cafe Society Uptown.

Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, celebrated beauty herself, and Woman's Editor of the People's Voice, helped Neil Scott select the historic group of first models. They are indicative of her high standards and hopes for Negro womanhood. These first models were: Mrs. Izzy Rowe, wife of Billy Rowe; Mrs. Jack Dabney, formerly Mrs. Bill Betty Mays, outstanding

Another Barrier Smashed; Negro Women Become Models

NEW YORK—History was made recently when another barrier was smashed, and jim-crow banished from an important phase of American life. Negro girls and women began modeling for a corporation which formerly has used only white women in modeling its clothes.

The company that made this revolutionary step was the Spool Cotton Corporaion of America and they are to be highly congratulated. Neil Scott, President of Neil Scott and Associates, is public relations counsel to the firm and is is due to his insistance that Spool Cotton executives made the important decision to use colored models.

To Glorify the Negro Woman

Neil Scott announced to his first models that he is now ready to begin an unrelenting campaign **for the glorification of the Negro woman. He stated that he would not cease in his efforts to break down all barriers and remove all obstacles which bar Negro women from following a career in modeling and other allied professions of the clothing industry.**

"Negro women are just as beautiful and talented as any other women and there is no logical reason why their beauty should not be presented to the world in the most flattering manner and in public mediums", said Scott.

The First Model of Fine Quality

The first models used by Neil Scott Associates were of fine quality and character. They possessed both beauty and talent. Scott says that he intends to keep his models at this high standard. He would like for young women who are interested in modeling, to send photos of themselves immediately to Neil Scott Associates at 400 Manhattan Ave. Include age, weight, height, and other essential measurements. Scott said it is his aim to make the atomic age, the age of the glorification of dark beauty as well.

Mary Cunningham, talented young orchestra leader; Marion Bruce rising contralto night club singer; Carol Cherot, talented young model; Yvonne Mrs. Walter "Strange Fruit" and daughter of Commissioner

N.Y. Parlor Porter Retired After 44 Years

NEW YORK — After having served 44 years and four months as a parlor car porter, Leonard Wright, who for 23 years worked on the Lackawanna Limited between New York and Buffalo, recently retired here.

Mr. Wright made his first run on the sleeping cars between New York and Buffalo in 1902. He was later transferred to the Scranton sleeper.

Waldorf-Astoria gets first Negro waiters

NEW YORK—Negroes served as banquet waiters at the Waldorf-Astoria here last week for the first time in its 53-year history.

Four thousand of Local 6's 30,000 membership are Negroes.

The hotel recently signed a con-

21h 1946

New York

NEGRO VETS GROUP BREAKS UPPER WEST SIDE JIMCROW

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Tues. 7-9-46

An intensive campaign by the New York City 99th St. Post of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America against the Jim-crow policy of the Safeway store at 95 St. bore fruit when the store hired its first Negro clerk last weekend.

William Siler, Commander of the Post, in announcing the victory, declared:

"This is but the first battle in our campaign to break down discrimination in this area. When the job of defeating was open, the color of a man's skin did not matter. The color of a man's skin should not bar him now from a job in civilian life."

Telephone Firms Pledge No Bigotry

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The New England Telephone and Telegraph and the Michigan Bell Telephone Companies have issued instruction that workers will be employed strictly on the basis of their qualifications without regard to race, officials of the National Urban League announced this week.

Immediate action of these two companies was the hiring of colored switchboard operators in Detroit exchanges and the recruitment of trainees for positions as clerks, stenographers, and operators in Boston, Mass., and Providence, R.I. Others may be hired as installers, repairmen and linemen as well. Sat. 11-16-46

Veterans with Army training in communication work should be able to qualify for employment with local units of the telephone company, and they should be encouraged to apply for these positions, Julius A. Thomas, the league's director of industrial relations, said.

Lane Bryant Club Scholarships Provide Study for 8 Employees

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Scholarships that will provide study in a field of their own choice went to five young colored women, along with other members of store staffs, when the Albert Malson awards were made by the Lane Bryant 25 Year Club this month.

Sat. 12-28-46

The winners:

Miss Helen M. Bollinger, a stock girl in the St. Louis, Mo., store; Miss Margeurite Goodnight, typist in the shipping department of the Indianapolis, Ind., store; Miss Bernadine Dunlop, a worker in the mail order department of the store in Indianapolis;

Miss Josephine Fogle, general office worker and typist in the Indianapolis store; Miss Edna Mosely, mail order division, Indianapolis; Miss Norma Hill, mail clerk, Indianapolis; Isabel Berry, bookkeeper in the Detroit, Mich., store; and Kay Owens, stock record bookkeeper, Detroit.

Seek Company Promotions

Three of the young women, Misses Bollinger, Fogle and Dunlop, will study commercial subjects with a view towards promotions in the company. Miss Berry who will study at Wayne University, wishes to become a hat designer for the company; Miss Owens will study interior decorating at Wayne; Miss Hill, home economics at Indiana University, and two, Misses Mosely and Goodnight, will study music.

The award is the second won by Miss Goodnight.

Three thousand dollars in scholarships of $200 each were distributed to 21 employees, the other winners being white.

Open to All

The Albert Malsin Awards, named for the late husband of the founder of the Lane Bryant stores, are designed to encourage ambitious employees who cannot afford to pursue their studies. The competition is open to persons who have been employed by Lane Bryant or its retail subsidiaries for one year or more, and are made without regard to age, race, creed or color.

Recipients may select the school or teacher qualified for their particular program, but the latter must be accredited.

Jerome E. Klein, director of public relations, told the AFRO-AMERICAN, this week, that all employees in the organization are hired for their respective jobs solely on the basis of fitness and ability to do the work. All the stores, he said, have colored employees and there is no policy of discrimination for any job. It is a long established Lane Bryant policy to treat all employees on a basis of equality, he said.

Baltimore Jim-Crow

Investigation in the Baltimore store, of which J. Ronald Walker is manager, found this policy violated. Not only does the Baltimore store have its 10 employees segregated to menial jobs, but refuses to serve colored customers.

The company has stores in New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Detroit, St. Louis, Chicago and Cleveland, and also owns the Newman-Benton chain in St. Paul, Des Moines, Oshkosh, Green Bay, Decatur, Waukegan, Davenport, South Bend, Kankakee, Rockford, Springfield; and the Coward Shoe Stores in New York, Brooklyn and Boston.

So far as has been determined, the segregation policy exists only in the Baltimore store.

The membership of the Twenty-Five-Year Club which awards the scholarships included Charles T. Nurse and Mack N. Mayers, who are employed by the Coward Shoe Co., and Clarence Green, Jerome Dawkins and Reginald Chapman, who work for Lane Bryant, Inc., in New York City.

From $1 to $45,000,000

The company, which designs and sells maternity garments, infant clothes and clothes designed for stout women, is the brain child

Lane Bryant Club Scholarships Provide Study for These Workers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-28-46

of Lane Bryant—Mrs. Lane Bryant Malsin—who as Lena Himmelstein, an orphaned Russian immigrant, came to this country at the age of 16.

Compatriots had made arrangements for her to marry a man she had never seen. Lena took one look at the prospective bridegroom, turned down the marriage and went out and looked for a job.

Her first job netted her $1 a week. The chain she established now does a $45,000,000-a-year business.

HELEN BOLLINGER
Stock Girl
St. Louis, Mo.

BERNADINE DUNLOP
Billing Clerk
Indianapolis, Ind.

JOSEPHINE FOGLE
Typist
Indianapolis, Ind.

EDNA MOSELY
Mail Order Division
Indianapolis, Ind.

MARGUERITE GOODNIGHT
Mail Order Division
Indianapolis, Ind.

KAY [illegible]S
Bookkeeper
Detroit, Mich.

ISABEL BERRY
Bookkeeper
Detroit, Mich.

NORMA HILL
Mail Clerk
Indianapolis, Ind.

No Uncle Toms or Aunt Jemimas in This Model Agency

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-30-46

Here are three of the 90 Brandford Models shown at a fashion show held at Hotel Theresa recently.

Not Exactly an 'Aunt Jemima'

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

CAROL DRAKE, 11-30-46 Sat one of America's leading "cover" girls, could hardly be classed as an "Aunt Jemima" type. She represents the clean-cut type of girl used by a New York model agency to illustrate products of its clients. See story "No Uncle Toms or Aunt Jemimas" on this week's feature page.

Call Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 12-27-46

GLAMOUR GIRL.—Pat Rainey shows plenty of glamour in this beautiful crocheted sweater which she wears for warmth as well as beauty. We must say, she is really a "Sweater Girl." A sweater such as this serves many purposes. It is long enough to be dressy and worn without a coat.

The Call Kansas City, Mo. Sat. 12-27-46

CHARMING SET.—Miss Marion Sims is shown here modeling a stunning matching crocheted cap and bag which will find their way into the hearts and wardrobe of millions of American women during 1947. Quite a gorgeous asset to any ensemble, we think

"I feel that the main purpose of our agency is the strong drive to aid advertisers who wish to get to the colored market to use colored models in a glorious, dignified, human fashion," declared Mary Louise Yarbro, white, fashions and public relations director of the Brandford Model Agency, in an exclusive AFRO interview.

"We will not release an 'Aunt Jemima' or 'Uncle Tom' type because we believe this is not a true picture of the colored people."

The agency, which was launched last July by Miss Yarbro, Barbara Watson and Edward Brandford, famous commercial artist, now employs 200 beautiful models, including several men and children.

Several fashion shows have already been held at the Hotel Theresa and at Ivel Furs on 5th Ave. Ivel's employs colored models and recently ran a fashion show for colored clientele.

Used by Advertisers

Pet Milk also uses Brandford's models, as well as a number of other leading advertisers.

"The colored market in the U.S. was a billion and a half dollars in 1944 and the figure is probably eight times that now," continued Miss Yarbro. "It compares with the entire buying power of England and Canada combined. You can see the great potentially here for advertisers.

"There are 15 million colored people in our country who use national brand items, including soaps, toiletries, cosmetics, etc., and they should be catered to in the same fashion as the white market . . . with glamour."

Fair Play

She pointed out that she has been operating in the advertising field on the fair play idea for a long time, way before Branford Models came into existence. At an advertisers' meeting she attended in Chicago last May, 300 advertisers unanimously agreed that if they had colored models they would certainly do something about the colored market.

"That gave me the idea for starting a colored agency. I got together with Barbara Watson and Edward Brandford, who had dreamed of such an enterprise for a long time, and we launched this project."

She and Miss Watson run a special school for models at which the girls receive expert training without charge. Of the 200 models, they currently are "working" with 20 hand-picked ones.

Fashions and Beauty

"So far," she added, "I've found that the greatest need for advertisers who have products to sell is to stop advertising in a flippant manner and start giving guidance with their fashion and beauty products, and state plainly the consumer angle and the practical angle in the product."

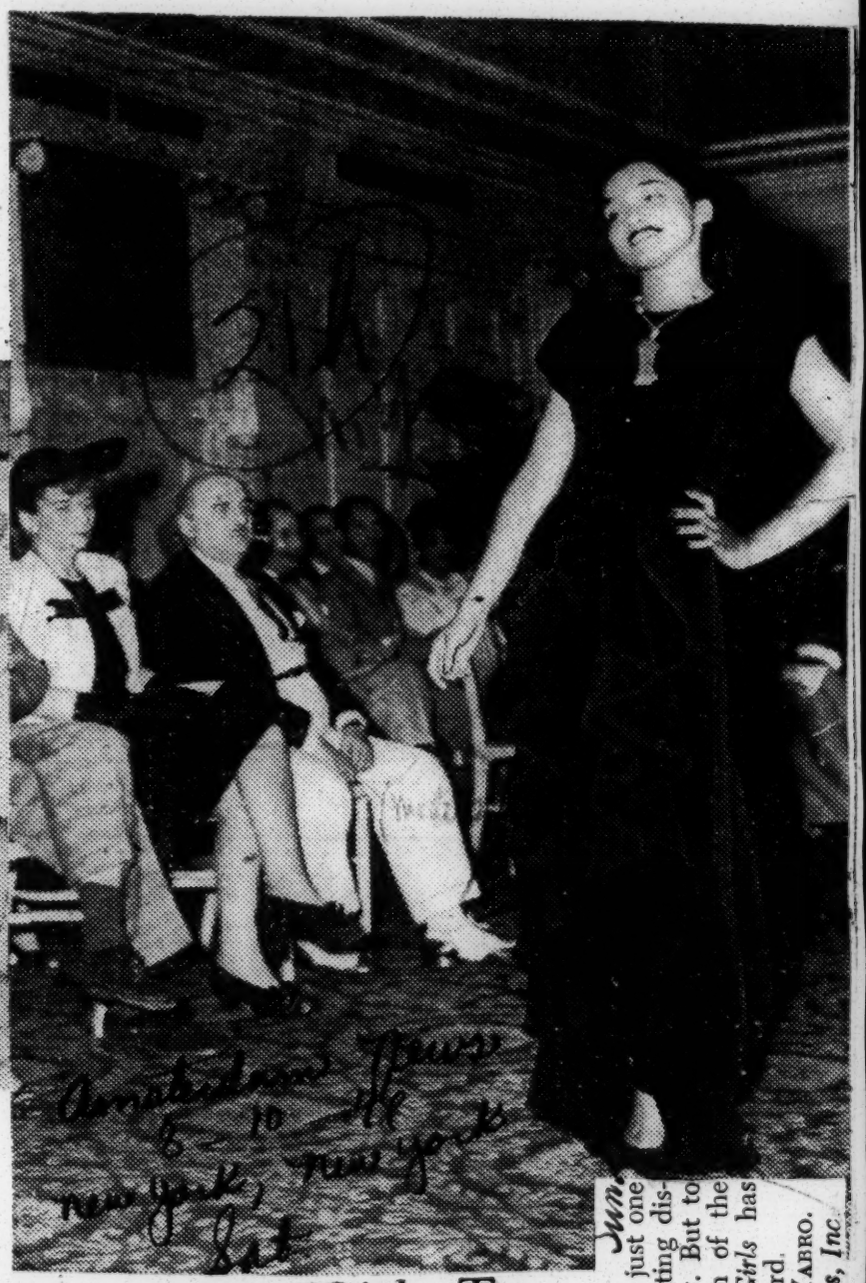
Miss Yarbro feels very keenly that in the white market, every product sold has full instructions on how to use it . . . but this is not so in the colored market, where things are thrown at people. She believes that women should be taught to beautify their complexions with beauty products.

Isabelle Cooley, Brandford Model and featured player in "Anna Lucasta," as she tries out product in new "copra" shade for glamour.

SEPIA MODELS — Edna Besson, (above) and Sylvia Fitt (at right) are two of the models of the first Negro model agency—The Brandford Models, which held launching ceremonies last week at the Hotel Astor. Edward Brandford of the Bronx, commercial artist, is director of the agency.

8-10-46 Saturday 21h (models) N.Y.

Amsterdam News, New York, N.Y.



Amsterdam News 8-10-46 New York, N.Y. Sat

Harlem model agency works to revolutionize advertising

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif Sat 10-26-46

NEW YORK—The patronizing attitude of white advertisers towards the Negro market has lessened appreciably in the few months that New Yorker's pioneer Negro model agency, Brandford Models, inc., has been operating.

That's the claim of Mary Louise Yabro, white, who founded the agency with two Negroes, Edward Brandford, commercial artist, and Barbara Watson, wartime public service worker, with the intention of persuading advertisers to use Negroes in ads aimed at the Negro consumer.

According to Miss Yabro, the trio based its appeal on the fact that Negroes spend one and a third billions a year on clothes and cosmetics. One result, she says, is that a manufacturer who used to advertise with a 'mammy' and the slogan, "My laundress loves to iron with a Featherline Iron", has switched to an attractive Negro matron at work under the legend, "I love to iron with a Featherline Iron."

This, added to Pet Milk's current billboard, which uses three Negro children, American School Thread's Negro woman sewing, and Pepsi Cola's plans to use Negro and white 'teenagers drinking coke together, is a hopeful sign to Miss Yabro.

Hardest to crack has been the fashion industry. One Jewish manufacturer was dismayed when he learned his tennis costume was to be photographed on a Negro model. Acknowledging the evils of race discrimination, he nevertheless protested, "But what will Bergdorf Goodman say! What will THEY think if a Negro wears a suit I sell to Bergdorf's?"

Another problem has been to teach dubious advertisers that Negroes appreciate good taste, Miss Yabro reports. "I found that dress manufacturers always handed me gaudy styles and flashy colors. When a kettle of dye came out badly, or a certain style turned out to have too much 'spinach' on it, these manufacturers always knew what to do with it—sell it to the Negro market!

"In Harlem, the stores are stocked with cheap, unattractive merchandise. When a Negro woman tries . . . a downtown store, in some places, she is discouraged from entering, she is . . . told there is nothing in her size or price range, or the clerk selects the flashiest, gaudiest merchandise for her . . .

"When the dress industry picks a shade as the . . . shade of the year, it often happens that (it) does not look well on darker-skinned women; for instance, the fuchsia and the shocking pink . . . or the forest green (which incidentally happens to be this year's shade).

"Some of these . . . shades are hard on any women (not properly made up for them, and the Negro woman doesn't have makeup created to flatter her skin. There is no complete cosmetic line sold to the Negro woman . . . on the back of all the jars sold to Negroes, it says, 'Will also lighten the skin.'

"The Negro woman meets this same derogatory, humiliating implication, that she's not so good or so pretty or so desirable as a white woman, from the moment she wakes up . . . till the moment she falls asleep. When she reaches for . . . soap, it's a bar with a picture of a white woman on it. The towel she uses and the food she eats were advertised for a white woman . . . The entire standard of beauty that she has to live by is a white standard."

In the beginning, Miss Yabro says, Brandford Models recruited schoolgirls, dancers, or anyone else suitable whom it happened to discover. But the word has gotten around and ambitious girls are flocking around its Harlem and downtown offices these days. Now staffed with 200 glamour girls, the agency has opened classes for them in makeup, posture, grooming, clothes and how to wear them, to remedy their lack of previous experience.

Negro Girls To Model Furs At 5th Ave. Shoppe

Fort Sam The Informer

NEW YORK—(ANP)— The need for a Negro modeling and finishing agency similar to the famous Powers Models Inc. was felt here in Harlem this week, when an exclusive downtown Fifth avenue fur shop selected the Smith brothers, commercial photographers, as a liaison and selecting unit for tall, tan, terrific sepia models.

Houston, Texas

Responding to the ad inserted by the lensmen, 38 attractive maidens, many with and without experience, applied and were shot via camera by Marvin Smith as they were posed on the revolving stage. 8-10-46

Harlem Glamor Girls

To the Editor: 21h

Thank you for the splendid article of a few weeks back entitled *Harlem Glamor Girls*.

The inquiries at our office with reference to the article added up to hundreds. The letters extend cross country, even into Nigeria, Africa. Among the more interesting, we have compliments from readers —Texas, Alabama, Tennessee, who say this has been a long time com-

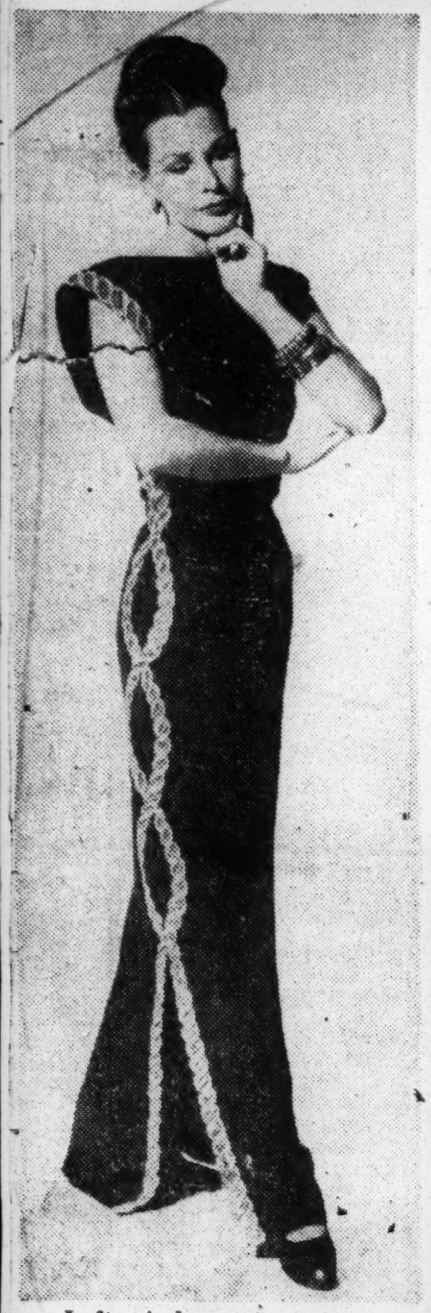
New York, N.Y. Sun. 11-3-46

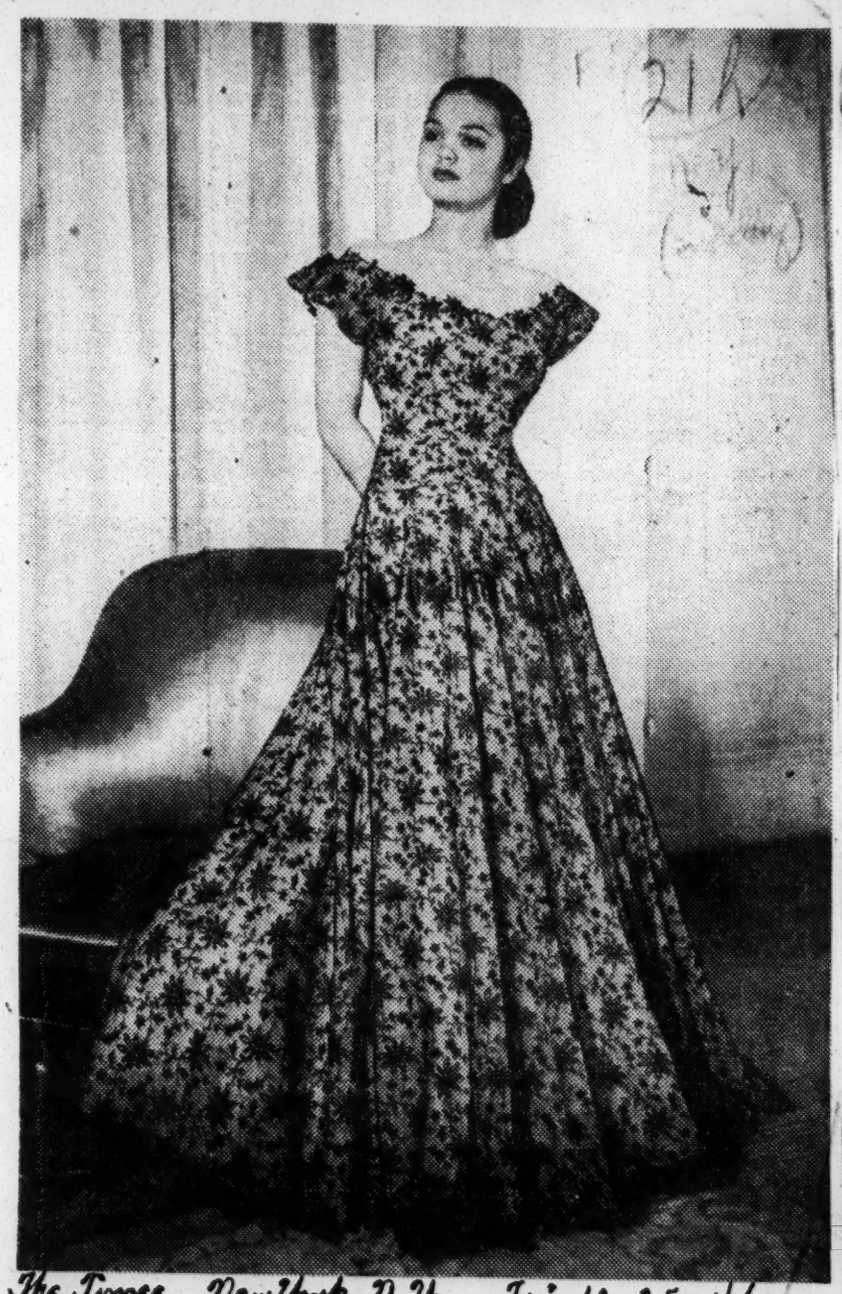
Perhaps to you this was just one of your many articles fighting discrimination in our country. But to the darker-skinned women of the world, *Harlem Glamor Girls* has been a terrific stride forward.

New York. MARY LOUISE YABRO.

Branford Models, Inc.

TWO INTERPRETATIONS OF THE FORMAL GOWN





The Times New York, N. Y. Fri. 10-25-46

Left: A dramatic evening fashion of black crêpe outlined on one side from the shoulder to the deeply slit skirt with scrolls of beaded gold embroidery. Seen yesterday at the Plaza in the Madame et La Jeune Fille collection. Right: A bouffant evening dress of black embroidered net over pink is banded at the hipline with blue satin ribbon. From the custom-made collection of Miriam Landey, 22 East Sixty-fifth Street, presented yesterday at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

Canada Lee Inducts Models

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-17-46

NEW YORK (ANP)—Ceremonies at Hotel Astor, conducted by Canada Lee, the actor, last week marked the launching of New York's first colored model agency, Brandford Models.

To be operated by Edward Brandford, a colored commercial artist and advertising executive the agency plans to groom young women for the profession of modeling.

Models Selected

Models, already selected, include Edna Besson, 20, a junior at New York University; Bessie Burts, 22, a student of dress designing, and Cecelia Smith, 25, a department store worker.

Blandford said all of the models are students, artists and writers many of them working their way through school. The girls showed latest fashions to guests at the opening.

Each year there are some hundred or more "Style Shows" given in Harlem where the beauties are shown off but we leave these to discuss the more lucrative appearances on Broadway where the Negro girl is given a big play.

For instance, recently Miss Fitt appeared as a fashion model for one of the larger Fifth Avenue fur shops and won acclaim. She is, to quote the furrier, a part of his plan to show Park Avenue how its residents will look once the Florida sun has started its process of browning everyone playing on the beaches.

There have been hundreds of such artists appearing as models. Many of them former show girls at the old Cotton Club and the later opened Zanzibar. Girls like Adelaide Marshall, the Santos sisters, Ethel Watkins Sissle, Marie McLeary, the Marions, Jordan and Mallory, Hycinth Curtis, now Mrs Clarence Robinson; Constance Perdue, Alma Bates, Gertrude Saunders, Vivian Baber, the late Mrs George Jones, who was then Pauline McDowell, Mary Wheeler, Vera Bracken, who came from Kansas City, Mo., to set Broadway on fire; Maudine Simmons, now Mrs. Nelson Sykes of Chicago; and many others.

Broadway Picks Its Models On Ability

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 12-7-46

We have chosen Miss Sylvia Fitt of Harlem because she is one of the more recent subjects but there

SILVIA FITT

are plenty other girls appearing as models in New York.

Most of these girls were brownskin or leaned to other Negro features but there were others who made the grade by "passing." Most notable of the latter, often used as a cover girl is now married to a band leader and living in Harlem. She maintained an exclusive apartment in the Bronx while modeling. Another is married to a musician and in the business of manufacturing hats. One wonders, however, if they wouldn't have made the grade on shape and other qualifications even if they had remained "Harlemites," especially to the artists and shop owners employing them.

Glamorous Harlem Girls Become Professional Models

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-30-46

NEW YORK—A familiar sight for years in Manhattan, especially near Broadway, has been bevies of beautiful girls carrying substantial looking hat boxes covered in gay chintz-like print material. To their numbers, since last summer, have been added 200 more, the glamorous Brandford girls, employees of the first Negro model agency in the city.

Organized to sell the idea of using Negro models in advertising aimed at the Negro market, which annually spends a billion and a third dollars on clothing and cosmetics alone, the Brandford agency found that it must persuade advertisers to change the slant of their ads.

This markekt wanted more conservative clothing in place of flashy items offered for sale in Harlem.

That one year has brought a measure of success to the agency, and its 200 beautiful girls, is seen in such ads as the country-wide billboard campaign of Pet milk, showing three Negro children grouped around its product. American School Thread, too, shows a Negro woman sewing, and Pepsi-Cola takes soon a real step in the right direction showing Negro and white teen-agers enjoying a soft drink together.

The three founders of Brandford Models Inc., are Edward Brandford, a commercial artist; Barbara Watson, once in charge of a public service program built around Negroes in war work, and Mary Louise Yabro, former department store stylist, the only white member of the trio.

As spokesman for the firm, Miss Yabro reports that first the agency recruited glamorous models from among Harlem school girls, Katherine Duncan dancers, and theater hopefuls. But soon beautiful Harlem girls, wanting the poise and graciousness of models, began to flock to Brandford. They were trained in make-up, in grooming, posture and in how to wear clothes.

Finding that manufacturers were foisting cheap, shoddy garments on Harlem, Brandford worked to obtain for Negro women clothing in the same excellent taste as that available in the better downtown stores patronized by white women. Miss Yabro herself lectures on the use of cosmetics. She and the firm hope to stop implication, by such cream advertisements as "whitens skin" that Negro women need to accept white standards of beauty. This is humiliating to the race, Miss Yabro points out, and is also poor advertising.

1946 21h

Ohio

White Ohio publisher says Negro workers are more loyal

The Tribune Los Angeles Cal. 5-22-46

CHICAGO — Negroes who attain skilled jobs in industry are more loyal to the company than whites, in the opinion of Benjamin B. Zevin, president of the World Publishing co., in Cleveland, O.

Zevin, whose company claims to be America's largest publisher of dictionaries and Bibles, makes this statement in an interview carried by the May issue of the picture-magazine Ebony, published here. He bases his favorable opinion of the Negro on the 143 Negroes scattered among the 500 employees in his plants. Several of the Negroes are foremen and one is an executive of the company. Sat.

Board Appoints 22 Custodians

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

CINCINNATI — Permanent appointment of 22 Negro workers in the custodian branch of the Board of Education here as the result of an investigation of the NAACP was announced last week.

The investigation followed a series of complaints from workers who claimed that white employes were being appointed to permanent jobs after serving a 90-day probation period while some colored workers remained on a temporary status for three or four years. Sat. 10-12-46

Harold D. Snell, NAACP executive secretary, in an interview with Robert W. Shafer, business manager of the board, pointed out that such assignments resulted in a pay differential based on race. Shafer agreed that 22 Negro workers would be added to the permanent staff at once.

Since some of the explanations put forth by the business manager will bear further investigation, the NAACP stated that the case cannot be considered closed.

Uncle Sam Pays Them From $1,704 to $5,200 for Technical Knowledge at Famed Wright Field

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 6-22-46

A serious illness prevented Dorothy Allen, stenographer, from completing her Cadet Nurse course, so she is working for the Air Technical Service Command at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, until she can resume nurse training.

Bruce Highwarden gave up a real estate business to become unit chief in the supply division, one of the higher paying occupations at the nation's No. 1 aviation field.

While her husband, recently returned from combat, convalesces in an Army hospital at Camp Atterbury, Ind., Mrs. Alice Davis continues her important job of testing aircraft engines in the power plant laboratory at Wright Field. She travels 100 miles a day to reach her job and has a good attendance record.

Interviewing nearly 75 job applicants a day, in addition to her regular secretarial work, is the important part played by Mrs. Claire B. Clayburn in the operation of Wright Field. She talks here to Wanda Glover, new employee. Mrs. Clayburn formerly lived in Cleveland and has been here since Oct., 1942. Sat. 6-22-46

Civilian Workers Completely Integrated at Wright Field, Largest U.S. Air Base

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-22-46

Colored Employees, One Third of 18,000 Total, Hold Every Type of Job, Earn $1,740 to $5,200

By VINCENT TUBBS
AFRO Staff Correspondent

WRIGHT FIELD, Ohio—Civilian employees here at Uncle Sam's largest air base work on the basis of complete racial integration under a setup that is completely democratic in every sense.

Of approximately 18,000 workers, some 8,000 are colored, functioning as research specialists chemists, physicists, clerks, typists, printers, auditors, accountants, and every other type of job necessary to the operation of this base.

Countless colored employees serve as supervisors of working units made up of 8 to 12 persons, more than half of whom may be white

$5,200 Top Salary

Jobs held by colored employees range in pay from $1740 to $5200 a year, and while some 11,000 persons have been released since the end of the war only about 700 of these were colored.

Located a few miles from the city limits of Dayton where 35,000 of a population estimated at 135,000 are colored, this base serves as a clearing house for all equipment used by the Air Corps at home or abroad.

Significantly, the base itself probably reflects, in no small measure, the better factors of race relations in the nearby metropolitan area.

Dayton Itself No Utopia

It should be understood, however, that Dayton is no Utopia so far as democratic conditions affecting the colored man are concerned.

Colored residents live principally in a ghetto separated from the main part of the city by the Little Miami River—sort of "across the tracks." Only one family of landed gentry real estate owners lives outside the ghetto.

Generally Protected From J.C.

But in recent years downtown theatres have opened their doors to colored patronage and there is something of a civil rights ordinance requiring all restaurants to serve patrons indiscriminately.

However, some proprietors have found ways to refuse to serve colored and dodge prosecution at the same time.

These include ignoring colored patrons altogether, failing to take their orders or taking the order and never producing the food, experienced Daytonians say.

Once "Potentially Explosive"

This small reactionary element is probably responsible for the fact that Dayton was considered during the war to have been as potentially explosive in a riot sense as Detroit, although no major "incidents" actually occurred.

There were instances of friction on public conveyances, due principally to overcrowding and individual irritability.

In addition, some Wright Field white workers walked out when colored came in as supervisors but all such occurences are attributed to "the wartime influx of Kentuckians," native Daytonians contend.

All Other Outlets Biased

Principle sources of livelihood for colored Daytonians are employment at the air base, at a General Motors plant, a Frigidaire plant or a McCall's plant.

At McCall's, numerous colored workers serve as pattern cutters and in other skilled jobs, but none as clerks. GM and Frigidaire employ colored persons only in custodial functions.

Colored businesses fall into the usual pattern of cafes, restaurants, shoe repair shops, tailor shops, funeral parlors, drug and grocery stores.

Housing Conditions Good

However, through economy or keen business, acumen, a considerable number of Daytonians are owners of comfortable, modern homes.

Some of the professionals have homes of mansion proportions, and the cost of the average worker's castle may have been anywhere between $5,000 and $13,000.

One of the largest and best housing projects in the country provides shelter for 1250, other families and most residents seem comfortable and secure.

Good Jobs Held

The jobs that some hold at Wright Field are good reasons for this appearance.

Chauncey E. Spencer, race relations specialist in the Employee Relations Section, is probably top man among colored workers. He is a former cross-country flyer, parachute jumper and pioneer in aeronautics.

Mrs. Francis Glover of Atlantic City is one of nine colored employee councellors, and John F. Johnson, Indianapolis lawyer, is one of three supervisors in the Overseas Auditing Department where 10% of 300 workers are colored.

Among the top workers at the end of the war than during the war. Colored persons are the following: Dr. Edward L. Harris, chemist, chief; Pittsburgh Mass., doctorate engineer mechanic and member of chemistry at Employees' Committee; Harber of Leonard A. witt S. Toney, Columbus, Ohio, W. Va., radio physicist, former professor of Mathematics at Wilberforce; Charles W. all test equipment for the power supply and Drew, Charles Town, W. Va., artist-illustrator, Engineer Division; Togo Ohio, me-O. Grasty, Culpeper, Va., photographer; Virginia E. Howze, Springwood, teacher; Robert Va.; Julia C. Richardson, Morgan-Ohio; physicist, town, W. Va., and Alverta E. Wright, structor at Wilberforce; George O. Wright, Roanoke, Va., all clerk-typists.

Check Lend-Lease Contracts

This department is the only War Department-okeyed project set up for final auditing of lend-lease contracts.

All of its workers were hand picked and colored employees here include several holding master's degrees, while most have bachelor's degrees.

Race relations through the base are better, observers say, since

Integration Throughout

In addition, 30 colored veterans have recently been added to the supply division auditing department here at least one colored person is not in evidence.

Democracy really works at Wright Field.

Phone Job Pledge For Negroes Won

PHILADELPHIA. — The NAACP campaign to puncture the lilywhite job phalanx of monopolies here, has made a dent in the local Bell Telephone Co. NAACP spokesmen declared that following a conference the Bell Telephone had agreed to take up the matter of hiring Negro switchboard operators within 10 days.

Bell officials said they had already hired 18 Negroes in white collar capacities.

Newspaper Herald

HARRY DUPLOSSIS, veteran postoffice clerk in Philadelphia, has been appointed assistant superintendent of Station "D."

John M. Brown, superintendent, is the only Negro station superintendent in the city. The station serves an industrial and densely populated area.

Duplossis, who was born in Philadelphia, has been in the postal service 35 years.

On The Job For Three Wars, 85 Year Old Trainman Retires

BY OMI EVANS

PHILADELPHIA — James E. Johnson Sr., two years ago said he would "stay on the job for the duration."

He had said the same thing during World War I. And his attitude was much the same when this country was embroiled in the Spanish-American War.

Served 64 Years

Today, however, after 64 years' service as a train announcer at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station here, he decided to call it quits.

Johnson, erect and for almost half a century sporting a carefully-trimmed Van Dyke that had made him probably one of the best-known train announcers in the country, retired from railroading—at the age of 85.

"I'm going to spend the rest of my days," he said, "just traveling around seeing old friends."

He's going to be missed at his old stand, and he's going to miss the hustle and bustle of it all, too.

Recalls Two Wars

He was there in 1898, and today he said of that period:

"There was a good bit of wailing and weeping then as men went off to fight in the Spanish-American War. The women, not as independent as they are today, cried all over the place."

The depressed spirits of the women, he said, dampened the men's enthusiasm.

"I saw many a husky man—Negro and white—break down and blubber."

And then, a generation later, Johnson was at the same post as thousands of men streamed into the station and crowded through the gates leading to the train shed, off for camps to train for World War I.

"They were full of high spirits," Johnson recalled. "There was a lot of wise-cracking and singing. To most of them it seemed like a lark."

Their women, too, he added, reacted in much the same manner.

Cites Changed View

But the picture was different this last time, he said.

"They were more sober, like they knew the score better than the soldiers before them. This thing certainly was no lark to them. Most of the women who saw them off wept a lot, but I noticed that a lot of the younger women seemed to be pretty stoical."

Johnson, who lives with his wife, Corona, 82, at 1336 S. 46th st., worked briefly as a private car attendant when he first entered the service. That was in 1882.

Sees Seven Presidents

He attended President Grover Cleveland when Cleveland traveled from New York for his inauguration at Washington.

When the B. & O. station was opened at 24th and Chestnut sts., Johnson was made usher and announcer.

He has seen the arrival and departure of Presidents Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover and F.D.R., during his years of service.

He escorted Queen Marie of Romania over a red velvet carpet from the train to her waiting car.

Got Job By Chance

He "drifted" into announcing trains in 1889, when refugees from the Johnstown flood crowded the station. He was a sort of handy man upstairs at the time, and was sent down by an executive to help in any way he could. He's been doing the same job ever since.

Worked In Capital

In 1909 he was sent to Washington to be train announcer at Union Station during a shortage in train announcers there. Even though there was no public address system, he managed to keep travelers informed of train departures, and he likes to say that he never had a complaint about his announcing voice.

One of his proudest possessions is a gold watch, given him in 1937 by Daniel Willard, president of the railroad, in appreciation of "55 years' loyal and efficient service."

Despite his age, he's still active in numerous organizations with which he's connected.

His church, St. Simon's Episcopal Church, 22nd and Reed sts., comes first.

He's been a member of the Hotel Brotherhood since 1898, serving as president three times. He's active in Masonry, and is financial secretary of the Southwest Republican Club. And he's a native of Flemingsburg, Ky. He has seven children, six of them boys, and two grandsons, both recently released from the Army.

Hosiery Firm As Apprentice

The Informer Sat. 9-7-46

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — The Armstrong association last week announced that it had been instrumental in the placement of Robert Frisby, 35, as an apprentice loom fixer with the J. W. Landenberger company, manufacturers of seamless hosiery.

Being a veteran Frisby will benefit by the provisions of the GI bill of rights which provides that a veteran being taken on as an apprentice in a skilled line can immediately be paid wages of a skilled worker. The government will pay the difference between the journeyman's pay and the apprentice's pay.

Wayne L. Hopkins, executive secretary of the association and Lewis J. Carter, industrial secretary, feel that this is a significant gain for Negroes in Philadelphia's industries in that Frisby, who is married, is the only Negro working in the loom fixtures trade in this city.

Several months ago the J. W. Landenberger company started a training project for Negro women in a seamless hosiery knitting and looping. Today approximately 30 young women are prepared to take their place in this line of work.

DEPOT PATRIARCH RETIRES

JAMES E. JOHNSON SR.

Dean of train announcers, who will retire from his job in the Baltimore and Ohio Station, Philadelphia, after 64 years' service. The 85-year-old dean of the depot has seen the arrival and departure of seven presidents, scores of European dignitaries and soldiers of three wars.

Giant Shipyard Closed, 9,500 Jobless

Chicago Defender

CHESTER, Pa.—Two and a half square miles of steel, concrete and silence along the banks of the Delaware river on the rim of this throbbing industrial city are the only visual remains of one of the nation's greatest industrial projects for Negroes.

It is the ultra-modern $12,500,000 Yard No. 4 of the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company where once 9,500 Negro men and women workers toiled to add to the greatest fleet of ships ever mustered by a nation.

Whether it was a good or a bad thing for the Negro, for labor, for industry, for society is a question that is being still hotly debated though the yard has been closed almost a year.

Yard Semi-Jim Crow

So loud was the clamor, and so sharp the differences of opinion when John G. Pew, president of the company announced in May, 1942 his plan to construct a yard, and staff it completely with Negroes that it seems unnecessary to review the background and history of the project.

Yard No. 4 was not a Jim Crow yard in the sense that it employed only Negroes. In addition to a number of white supervisiors who were to have been replaced as Negroes qualified for the position, upon the advice of Dr. Scott, Pew openly was employing approximately 300 other white workmen asked for and were given assignments in the yard.

However, it was Jim Crow in the sense that it was created and operated with the expressed purpose of giving preference to Negroes in job advancment.

In the cluttered study of his home, Dr. Emmett J. Scott told me what he thought of the job policy of Yard No. 4. Dr. Scott was one of the first persons consulted by Industrialist Pew after he conceived the all-Negro yard back in 1942.

Leaning heavily upon the advice and ability of Dr. Scott, Pew opened the yard and placed the Negro leader in charge. It was a war time expedient, until it closed July 15, 1945. It was his baby, all laborers.

Dr. Scott spoke freely:

Needed More Workers

Pew, Dr. Scott asserted, was anxious to give Negroes an opportunity to work in higher categories.

Self-Segregation to reach Reason Given

Further, he contended, it not only was imposed segregation in the sense in which it is this couldn't be done in the set-up provided new job opportunities for important, he contended, but it also provided the Negro 20,000 men of whom 2,000 were Negroes in 1941. However, Negro workers, but it also provided an evaluation of Pew's by establishing a Jim Crow yard policy. At the peak of No. 4 is the most-Negroes would be about on the same footing as to seniority and employment, he said, Sun Ship employed 36,000 men and women. Of ways worked for in competing against each other these 18,000 or 50 percent of the forced. Before the for top jobs, would not have to Four, the company contend with the factor of racial total working force were colored.

Leader Gives Advice

This was an old role for Dr. Scott. For 18 years he had served as secretary and objective, he said, to Booker T. Washington, D.C., home, Dr. Emington. Under President Taft he usually used. Important role in the evaluation of Pew's policy of Yardin Liberia. During World War I policy in Yard No. 4 is Howard University.

No more than half of the Negro employees were in Yard Four. Incidentally 670 of the workers were women. He estimated that a family population of 45,000 persons benefitted from the project.

Labor Leader's Opinion

In Chester, a labor leader, reviewed the policy through the eyes of a unionist.

"Expediency," he said, "is no excuse for abandoning sound labor principles. Whatever benefits Negroes enjoyed because of the existence of the Jim Crow yard were lost when it was closed. It would have been better from a long range point of view for Negroes to have been integrated throughout with preference being given to no one. Some whites would have been employed atfer some Negroes who would enjoy seniority that might benefit them now."

Set-Up Boomerang

"But more dangerous than anything else," he pointed out, "is that any artificial set-up can be used against you as well as to benefit you. Negroes working in the other yards could cerainly not complain if white workers were given a preference over them so long as the situation was reversed in Yard Four. And it must not be forgotten," he stated, "that as many Negroes were outside of Yard Four as in it. This means," he interpreted, "that half of your Negro workers faced the threat of having Number 4 Yard's policy boomerang in their faces."

21h 1946

Philippine Islands

Has Unique Job

Afro-American
Baltimore
Md

21R

12-19-46

Sat. JAMES W. ALLEN, 10-19 of Farmville, Va., who is radiosonde operator and observer for Pan American World Airways in Laoaz, Philippines. He was discharged from the Navy in January after having served as aerographer and weather observer in the North Atlantic and Newfoundland.

Negroes And South Carolina Industry

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 9-26-46

(The Lighthouse and Informer, Columbia, S. C.)

Of interest is the number and income of South Carolina Negroes in industries, revealed in the tenth annual report of the South Carolina Department of Labor.

The report, covering the period beginning July 1, 1944 and ending June 30, 1945, shows that 53 types of industry arranged in 32 classes, employed 25,646 Negroes, 3,638 of whom were women, and paid these a total of $29,027,331 for an annual average income of $1132.00, an even $406 more than was the average annual salary of 5,975 Negro teachers in public schools. The same industries gave employment to 128,738 white workers and wages of $194,417,504 for an annual salary of $1512. But 103,958 of these workers, as were 5,559 of the colored, were employed by one industry, textiles.

The report does not cover the following groups of workers: professional, domestic, laborers, farm, laundries, restaurants, groceries, mechanics or governmental employees. Hence, it does not attempt to report the total buying power of either race which, should be multiples of the nearly 225 million dollars contributed by industry alone. Carpentry, masonry, painting and several other occupations using large numbers of Negroes are also omitted from the report.

But this much is clear: In comparison with white workers, Negroes fare about as well as expected. It should be seriously doubted whether the average colored worker, be he professional or domestic, earns as much as $1100 per year.

Charleston, S. C. News-Courier
December 13, 1946

Association to Include Negroes in Civil Service

The Federal Career Employes association voted Wednesday night to include negro civil service employes in its membership, but to hold no mixed meetings. The association, formed last month includes non-veteran employes in government service. The major purpose was said to be to obtain judicial interpretation of veteran preference regulations in civil service laws.

The resignation of H. E. Miller as president was accepted and Edward Smith, naval shipyard planner and estimator, was elected his successor. Approximately 250 men attended the meeting, held at Live Oak recreational building.

Beauty Co. Enrolls 2 Workers in 25-Year Club at Testimonial

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-12-46

MEMPHIS—Altogether 200 persons, 50 of which were white, attended a testimonial dinner given by the Plough Company on Sept. 28 in honor of two colored employees, who have been in its services for more than 25 years.

The dinner marked the enrollment of the two employees, Warren E. Martin, with 29 years' service, and Will Simpson, who has worked for the company for 27 years, as members of the company's newly formed 25-year Club.

Founder Lauds Men

Abe Plough, president of the company which manufactures Black and White beauty preparations, St. Joseph Aspirin, and other household products, lauded the two men and presented each of them with the company's gift of a wrist watch.

He said:

"I regard both of you as an example to all of our employees, and to me you symbolize the true meaning of success."

Postal Service Reveals Proud Records Of Negro Employes

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
November 24, 1946

21h Tenn

By CHARLES V. PATTON
Journal Staff Writer

Records of the U. S. Postal Service at Knoxville reveal that Negroes have contributed to the organization for years and many of the men who served with meritorious successes have been retired on pensions.

PATTON

William L. Gamble, retired and now living at 700 Payne Avenue, entered the Railway Mail Service in 1896 and retired in 1931. He was a railway mail clerk for 35 years. Gamble was assigned to the "run" over the Southern Railway between Knoxville and Salisbury, N. C. For a long time he was the clerk in charge of the railway postal car, with other clerks working under his direction.

He left the railway mail service with an excellent record for efficiency. The white railway clerks who served for years with Gamble spoke well of his service and courteous treatment of all who came in contact with him.

It is recalled that Gamble was one of the 30 Negro postal employes who met in Chattanooga in 1913 an organized the National Alliance of Negro Postal Employes. The organization now has a membership exceeding 12,000 Negro employes in towns and cities all over the United States.

Gamble is a native of Maryville. He was graduated from a school at Maryville when he was a young man and he later was given a position in the postal service. After growing old in the postal service he retired 15 years ago.

He enjoys talking about the excellent records made by other Negroes and while men in the postal service, but rarely ever mentions his own long service which was outstanding for achievements, especially during the long periods he was clerk on the preferred run between Knoxville and Salisbury.

Many other Knoxville Negroes have been identified as clerks and carriers in the postal service from the Knoxville Post Office.

Older residents can remember when Shadrach Carter, a Negro, delivered mail, riding horseback. He served Park City and Mountain View residents with mail every day, except Sunday. Carter was Knoxville's first Negro postal employe. He served with an excellent record until about 20 years ago. After retiring he went to Morristown, where he died 12 years ago at the home of a daughter.

Following the retirement of Carter many others were accepted for postal service in the city. As many as six or eight Negroes have been delivering mail in the city for several years. Joe M. Trigg, formerly in the Postal service in Knoxville, is now living in Washington, D. C. Trigg also was an alderman from the Fifth Ward and influential in politics.

James G. Beck, graduate of Knoxville College, also served as an employe of Knoxville Post Office for years and has an excellent record for efficiency. He retired two years ago and lives at 1307 Dandridge Pike.

Gamble had a mental map of the geographical areas served by the postal employes receiving mail from his car. He was speedy with the work of handling mail and knew the locations of all of the Post Offices in counties along the route on which he was assigned.

This knowledge was essential to the successful and speedy service given by the employes of railway mail service. Clerks must know the stations from which all areas can be given the quickest service.

Veteran clerks who recall having seen Gamble in action in his mail car have been heard to remark that he maintained a record of efficiency throughout his career as a postal employe.

When asked about his long service between Knoxville and Salisbury, Gamble told a reporter that "self-praise is half scandal" and that he did not care to talk of what had been accomplished. The information about the record of the veteran clerk was obtained from another man who had known Gamble from the time he entered the postal service until his retirement with a perfect record.

The informant said Gamble spent much time at hard study to prepare himself for the service which he practiced until he made his last trip in a railway mail car.

The Ties That Bind

The ties of schoolboy friendship between at least one East Tennessean and his former classmates, now located in widely separated parts of the Middle West, will never be broken this side of the Great Divide.

The Tennessean, Pierce B. Boyer of Jonesboro, recently returned from the novel trip of finding his old classmates in Kansas, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado and other states.

After being separated for more than 50 years, Boyer, who is a Spanish-American War veteran, planned for a trip in his automobile to see all of his schoolboy associates he could locate in the West.

He found many of the former students of his class ranging in ages from 73 to 77 years old. He spoke of the Golloway boys, who formerly lived on Horse Creek, three miles from Fall Branch. "I found John to be 73 and Jim is 77. They have been out West for 52 years," he said. He also visited many others whom he had known when he was young.

After spending two or three weeks traveling over the plains states locating and surprising his former schoolboy friends, Boyer returned to his home near Jonesboro. He told friends it was one of the most enjoyable tours he had ever made. He said he couldn't imagine or describe the many changes that have taken place in the lapse of 50 years.

He recounted stories of his school days with the former students and each reviewed the pleasures. The old students are now on farms, ranches or in thriving cities and towns of the midwest, as life's December passes.

Boyer was one of the first string instrument artists to introduce steel string guitars and banjos in East Tennessee around the turn of the century when the old-fashioned square dances were in vogue.

He recalled that the beau brummels of that time were enchanted by the maze of a room gaily lighted by oil burning lamps as fairy-like forms pranced to the banjo's melody: "If a Body Meet a Body Comin' Thro' the Rye."

REVIEWING TRAGEDIES

"Is Knoxville going back to a repetition of the tragedies of the old saloon days when numbers of men and many women were shot down in licensed saloons or resorts in the old bowery section and elsewhere in the city?" queried a veteran once employed as a law enforcement officer.

"The 'night spots' and resorts where beer is sold are often filled to capacity and appear to be drawing young men and women in larger numbers every ear," the former officer said.

He continued: "I picked up a newspaper a few days ago and read the brief story of a tragedy. A bartender had been fatally shot and a young man had been intercepted and taken to jail.

"It read like a story frequently seen in the newspapers of Knoxville when upwards of 100 saloons were operating here.

"For years after saloons were voted out of Knoxville the city was listed as 'dry' and the stories of saloon tragedies disappeared from the newspapers.

"The late Michael J. Cross, Knoxville detective for many years compiled a list of 30 persons who had been killed as a result of saloon fights in Knoxville and in resorts where intoxicants were served."

The Memphis World

Memphis Tennessee

EMPLOYED AS ENGRAVER — TYLER, Texas — La Salle Gunter, one of the few Negro engravers employed full-time by a large white firm, holds a key position with the East Texas Engraving Company, at Tyler, Texas. Gunter has made himself almost indispensable by his industry, painstaking efforts, studious application of knowledge gained in his chosen profession, and being prompt, dependable and thorough in his work. 1-22-46

When questioned regarding how he came to be an engraver, he said he "dropped piano playing for this trade." The two owners—John Newbern and "Bill Nourse—pay high tribute to the work and worth of Gunter. "We are in business for the sake of business," they say, "and we make no difference between our workers. They are valuable to us only as they deliver the goods — and that is our hallmark. We conduct a nationwide 'mail-a-out-service' and our Negro patrons have multiplied many hundreds of times during the past two or three years."

According to Gunter and other workers at the huge East Texas Engraving plant, "there's no differential in salary scale on account of our racial identity. We are paid according to the quality and quantity of production. That's the only democratic thing to do. Men should not be either employed or paid on account of their color." Gunter and his employers are proud that he "dropped his piano-playing" for the engraving business. "It has proved a most profitable and paying joy," they say. Gunter has the longest tenure of any of the Negro employees at the big plant. He also is rated as having "high skills" as an engraver. 1-22-46

Name Negro Head Of Motor Company

Texas Weekly

DALLAS. — Emmett A. Darby, well-known in the motor transportation field in Texas and Oklahoma, has been named manager of the Dallas branch of the White Motor company, according to announcement by Horace Mosteller, Texas Regional manager located at Dallas. 4-22-1946

Mr. Darby joined the sales staff of the Dallas branch of White motor following more than three years of service in the navy as lieutenant commander, and soon was promoted to sales manager. His recent appointment as branch manager comes in recognition of long standing experience and ability in the motor transportation field. Prior to his service in the navy, he was engaged in motor truck sales for the International Harvester company in Oklahoma City for nine years.

A graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Mr. Darby has spent most of his business life, to-date, in the automotive industry and is thoroughly familiar with trucks and truck operation. The benefit of such experience will henceforth be given to truck operators in the Dallas region.

He is a great lover of horses, and for recreation likes golf and fishing.

Maid service on trains praised

CHICAGO—Negro girls and women who work as maids on the New York Central's Pace Maker have done just as much as the porters and dining car men to build up the train's reputation for comfortable traveling.

So says this month's Negro Traveler, railroad employee's magazine, which discloses that Pace Maker maids—mostly from New York and Chicago—are selected for their good character and training.

The women chosen are those who have patience and personality, and know the wants of a mother traveling with her baby. They are usually kept busy preparing milk formulas, sterilizing bottles, and disposing of soiled diapers. Most of them are assigned to watch out for the comfort of women and children on the entire train, generally working from a car which is exclusively for women, where they often take care of invalids and old people unable to travel alone. On a train like the Pace Maker, a maid walks from 12 to 14 car lengths, making about 20 round trips a day to attend to passengers' needs.

Although this service has long been a part of train travel, all passengers do not take it for granted. Some mothers gratefully say that if it weren't for the maids, they would never have a minute of rest on trips. Other travelers compare them favorably with airplane stewardesses and hostesses.

Railroad Man, 85, Writing Memoirs

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — Completing 64 years and three months with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad May 31, celebrating his 62nd wedding anniversary June 5 and looking forward to his 86th birthday, Nov. 25, makes 1946 memorable for James E. Johnson Sr. With all that he is writing a book, an autobiography.

Indentured to white farmers at the age of six, the Kentuckian was reared by them until he reached 18. Journeying to Cincinnati, he was employed as a headwaiter in the Gibson house until 1882.

Starting with the B. & P. March 1, 1882, he did clerical work for the first, second and third vice presidents until 1888. He then worked on sleeping cars and private cars until July 1, 1890, when he became usher and train announcer.

President of St. Simon's Episcopal church's 1924 confirmation class, Johnson is also financial secretary, Southwest club; treasurer and post master, St. John Lodge F. & A M., and senior counsel, Hotel Brotherhood.

He and his wife, Coronet, whom he married in Baltimore, lived in Southwest Philadelphia. Six of their eight children are living. Two of the children, George (army- and Herbert (navy) served in World War I. A grand-son-in-law, Charles [illegible], was a first lieutenant in the last war.

Trainmen

Mediation Board and the National Adjustment Board, are the administrative agents and should take jurisdiction,. a spokesman said. The spokesman said both of these Boards refused to recognize the importance of immediate action —hence the court action.

railroad men, pastors of churches and their members, said Coffey.

"The National Mediation Board, Washington, D. C., and the first division of the National Railroad Adjustment Board, Chicago, flatly refused to take jurisdiction over this dispute and grant the relief which was needed to save the immediate dismissal of the 111 Negro trainmen," Coffey revealed. This dispute "came directly under the provision of the Railway Labor act of 1934," he pointed out.

Pullman Porters Help Merge Coast-To-Coast Rail Service

WASHINGTON — Pullman porters were instrumental this week in merging through rail service from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific coast without a layover in Chicago.

The roads were reluctant to make the connections, explaining they could not get porters to take the long four-day run. But an inquiry of the sleeping car men disclosed they were eager and willing to make the trip.

Apparently stunned by their decision, railroad officials began making plans for the long trek with fine cars, promising that new modern equipment will be ready for these runs by next fall.

When first approached by the idea of such through service, rail officials were loathe to discuss it until the public's interest was motivated by a striking cartoon captioned: "A hog can go from coast to coast without changing his car, but you can't."

The picture showed a fat hog puffing a cigar while standing in the doorway of his private car as the public looked on in envy. Immediately the railroads began making plans.

Beginning last Sunday, from New York and Washington, the Pennsylvania, New York Central and Baltimore and Ohio, cooperating with roads out of Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, and New Orleans, operate one car [illegible] day in each direction.

Grant Injunction Saving Jobs Of 128 Train Porters

By HOWARD B. WOODS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ST. LOUIS—A temporary restraining order prohibiting the Frisco Railroad from the wholesale firing of 128 Negro trainmen on April 1 and replacing them with white brakemen, was granted in the U. S. District Court here Friday.

The men hired as porters for the Frisco line, with a basic wage of $169.45 per month, have been doing the work of brakemen in addition to their duties as porters, it was stated by Vernon C. Coffey of Kansas, general attorney for the men, members of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, Brakemen and Porters Union, Inc. The white brakemen, members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, a national union, will receive $207 a month, Coffey explained.

Henry D. Espy, St. Louis attorney, who is representing the men along with Victor Packman and H. Wilson Gray, told the Defender that some of the men had had 32 years of service with the Frisco line. The porters are from all parts of the country and many are ready to retire, Espy said.

The men would have been discharged under an agreement reached between the Assistant to Chief Operating Officer of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway company—St. Louis-San Francisco and Texas Railway company and the General Chairman of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Under certain provisions of the Railway Labor Act, the National

Would Have Hired Whites:

WRIT BLOCKS FIRING OF 111 R. R. WORKERS

ST. LOUIS—(ANP)—U. S. District Court Judge George H. Moore temporarily blocked a move to discharge 111 Negro trainmen of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company and the St. Louis-San Francisco and Texas Railway Company here Friday. The men were slated to have been replaced by white members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen on April 1.

The order enjoins and restrains Frank A. Thompson, trustee and president of the railway lines, from putting into operation the agreement he entered into on March 7 with the all-white BRT, said Vernon C. Coffey, attorney for the Brotherhood of Trainmen, Brakemen, Porters, Switchmen, Firemen and Railway Employes. The writ also prevents Thompson from replacing Simon L. Howard Sr., a train porter of Memphis, and other Negro trainmen known as train porters with white brakemen as Thompson's agreement had planned.

FRIENDS BLOCK MOVE

Credit for temporarily blocking the wholesale discharge goes to Attys. Victor Packman and Henry D. Espy, the colored trade unions.

Old Southern Recipe Makes New Yankee Cookbook

The pride of the L. & N.'s cuisine is a veteran chef named Joseph S. McKay who really knows his onions

By Sam Moss

JOSEPH S. McKAY'S famed Southern Gumbo, of which gallons are eaten daily by passengers on the Louisville & Nashville diners, is headed for a Yankee cookbook.

McKay's gumbo has been perfected in more than 40 years of cooking for the L. & N. He is senior chef of the system, and his prized run right now is on the last noon train to Cincinnati and back on the Azalean at night.

"I picked up the idea from some Creoles in New Orleans and have been serving it all these years," said McKay, who has found it eaten with delight by

newspaper editor is getting up the prized recipes from railroads over the country. The four cooks on a diner work in a little space that makes an efficiency-apartment kitchen seem like acres of room. The chief cook—and McKay has been one since he first went with L. & N. always makes the soup.

"And he makes the coffee, too," said McKay. "The coffee makes or breaks a meal."

Watches People's Faces

"I always walk out into the diner a little or two during the meal," he ex-plained in telling how he decides whether he hits the spot. "You don't have to ask any questions. You just look at the people's faces.

"I picked up the idea from some Creoles in New Orleans and have been serving it all these years," said McKay, who has found it eaten with delight by to send along to New Haven, where a

"I get the ideas from everywhere and adapt them to our job," he said. "I have a big collection of books at 1003 West Chestnut where I live and spend much time going over them. I'm no mid-night rambler, so I have time to read.

"You don't have to like cooking to make a success of it," said McKay. "You've got to like cooking to make a career of it."

Makes Board of Trade Tours

Another favored lot of diners has been members of the Louisville Board of Trade after the years, you sort of forget.

His gumbo was the recipe he decided to pull off his regular runs to man the meals himself. The recipe, as it is made up for a diner, has some other favorites, including his corn muffins and his all-purpose dressing, but the gumbo is the

Crowded quarters of diner galley don't bother Joseph McKay.

makes one and a half gallons of soup, or 20 liberal servings. For a family, the ingredients may be cut in half or in fourths, depending on the number to be served.

Southern Gumbo

One gallon good mixed stock (beef, chicken, veal or any fresh meat); two No. 2½ cans tomatoes, chopped fine; two No. 2 cans okra, chopped fine; four large green peppers; two stalks celery; six large onions; six cloves; garlic; one cup veal or chicken, diced; one cup salt pork or ham, diced; one large spoonful of meat drippings and one spoonful of butter.

Place the chopped meat, butter and drippings in a pot. Add chopped vegetables, except the okra. Add two large spoonfuls of flour. Cook slowly until vegetables are done. Stir often, then slowly add the stock. After the soup is thoroughly mixed, add okra. Season with four bay leaves and one teaspoon thyme. Simmer for 30 minutes or more. A few minutes before removing from the fire, add two tablespoonfuls of gumbo file. Use black and cayenne pepper and salt to taste. 4-27-46

Dry cooked rice may be served with this gumbo if desired.

Poultry Dressing

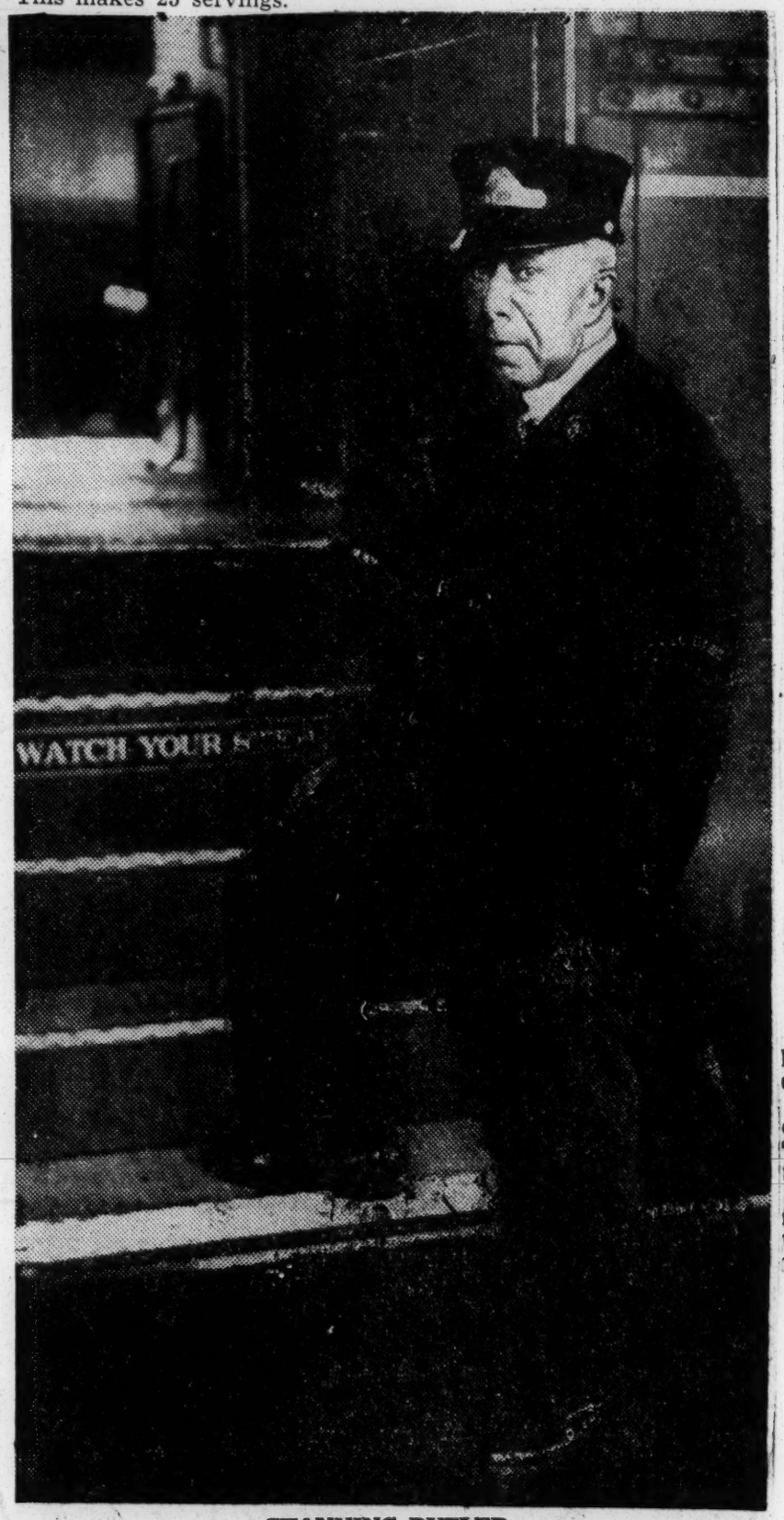
One-half loaf each of white bread, rye bread, whole wheat bread, eight corn muffins.

Mince two large onions and one stalk of celery. Saute this in butter in frying pan.

Soak all bread, with exception of corn muffins, a few minutes in ice water. Wring the bread as dry as possible, crumble the muffins fine and add the vegetables to this mixture. Add three well-beaten eggs. Salt and pepper to taste. Add one tablespoonful of powdered garden sage.

If too stiff, soften with any meat stock on hand. Place in baking dish and bake in a slow oven for one hour.

This makes 25 servings.



CHANNING BUTLER

Railroad Man Climbs From Waiter to Train Loader

Afro American Sat 5-4-46

Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

From waiter to loader of the "Royal Blue," crack Baltimore and Ohio train at Union Station, is the story of Channing A. Butler who has been employed by the railroad for over 30 years.

Mr. Butler, the only non-white man to supervise the loading of a train at Union Station, has been at his post for over six years.

Paving the Way for Others

In an interview with the AFRO, he said: "Although I am not compensated for carrying out the responsibilities of this job, I delight in executing the duties because I am paving the path for the next generation." Sat 5-4-46

When the diagrams are completed at the passenger agent's office, they are picked up by Mr. Butler, who then supervises all reservations.

"After I finish with a passenger, he or she has no more worries and needs only to sit back, relax and enjoy the trip, even if there are children," he said.

Served Queen Marie, Coolidge

Starting as a waiter over 30 years ago, he can recall many notables he has served, including Queen Marie of Roumania and President Calvin Cooldige.

"During Queen Marie's tour of this country," he said, "I served the first banquet to be held on an American Railroad." Sat 5-4-46

Mr. Butler is five feet six inches tall, weighs 175 pounds, has grey hair, brown eyes and is a frank and friendly person.

He hails from Essex County, Va., where he was born 64 years ago. He moved to Washington 32 years later and now resides at 1815 S St., N.W.

Honor Pullman Employee Of 70

Defender

ST. LOUIS—A testimonial dinner honoring the retirement of G. J. Alexander, 70-year-old Pullman company employee, was held here last week at the Pullman club on Market street. 6-1-46 Sat.

At the climax of the dinner, Alexander was presented with a check for $400 representing a fund gathered by the employees and members of the St. Louis district.

Alexander was retiring after 40 years of service with the railroads. Alexander's virtues were extolled by Alston Isby who was with him on his first run and Allen Brown who brought greetings from the other employees. L. E. Hinch served as master of ceremonies.

He resides at 327 So. Garrison ave. He has four sons and two daughters.

Pere Marquette Railroad Stops Dining Car Tipping

Afro American

CLEVELAND—The Pere Marquette Railway announced last Friday that it would become a "guinea pig" in an experiment to do away with a "tyranny of custom"—dining car tipping. Sat 5-4-46

President R. J. Bowman said tipping would be banned Monday, June 10, and predicted that the move would bring no "dagger glances" from waiters, since management had arranged to compensate workers for any loss incurred. Baltimore

The road's chief executive said this "tyranny of custom is already too deep-rooted" in rail transportation, and expressed hope that the Pere Marquette's experiment would "lead to a trend that will result in much larger relief for the harassed traveler."

Prayer meeting in an unlighted day coach on Track No. 13. These men who sit with Red Cap Ralston Young (center figure facing camera) arrived at 12 noon at Grand Central Station. Some of them come every Monday, Wednesday and Friday to talk and pray.

If you can wait just one minute longer, rage and panic pass and reason creeps back, observes the philosopher of Grand Central.

This is the story of a red cap who will carry your bags, and your burdens, too, if you let him.

Red Cap Number 42

Baltimore, Md.

By SAMUEL M. SHOEMAKER

From Reader's Digest ... Afro American

The tiny, silver-haired woman is crying. Beside her wheel chair, Station Porter No. 42 ruefully watches his suffering customer. As the elevator dawdles down from the balcony of Grand Central, the man takes off his red cap and, closing his eyes, seems to listen. Presently he bends over and whispers:

"Lady, that is a sure-enough pretty hat you're wearing this morning."

In utter astonishment, she looks up into the colored face.

"And your dress, too—prettiest one I've seen today."

Over the pain-wrenched mouth comes the apparition of a smile, such as only women know when their taste in frocks and bonnets is admired.

"I declare!" she gasps. "Whatever made you say that to me?"

"The good Lord," declares Red Cap No. 42 with conviction. "I just asked Him how to help you and the answer came to me to take a look at your hat. But," he chuckles, "the dress was my own idea."

She is still smiling as he pushes the wheel-chair across the noisy concourse and down the ramp to the Pullman, but in the drawing room she apologizes:

"I am ashamed of breaking down like that—but I am in pain all the time. Can you imagine what that is like?"

"Yes, ma'm. I had to lose an eye—and for years afterward it hurt me like a hot iron."

Just Praying

"How were you ever able to endure it?"

"Just praying."

"Did prayer take your pain away?"

"No, ma'am. But it brought me the strength to stand the pain."

There is an aroused light in her hurt eyes, as she sends him away.

A year later the porter hears from her. June again, and above the station din, a voice paging Number 42.

When the bespectacled, scholarly-looking red cap reports at Information Desk, the daughter of that woman is waiting with a message from the dead:

"She asked me to find you and tell you that what you said to her last summer made all the difference in the world to her."

Off comes the red cap, the eyelids close, the porter listens, and then in the boldness of faith he speaks:

"Don't be bitter over your loss, miss, and don't be ashamed to cry. Jesus wept, why can't we? And why don't you say a little prayer of thankfulness to the Lord?"

"Why should I be thankful?"

"Because your mother lived to be a very old lady and you had her to love for a long time. I know lots of orphans mighty young. And besides, your mother's pain is gone now! . . . That's good, miss, cry real hard!"

Hundreds of travelers have been helped by Ralston Crosbie Young, who makes a career of toting luggage and volunteering comfort to the downcast and the bewildered.

This eager brown servant of God specializes in faith and common sense mixed with an unshakable liking for people.

Gather at Terminal

In New York's great railroad terminal he has founded what is surely one of the strangest groups of men in a naughty world. At noon-stroke on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Ralston appears at Track No. 13, and welcomes his friends.

As few as four, as many as 12, may come: executives and clerks; professional men and jobless wanderers, rich and poor, from the teeming district of Pershing Square.

All believe that where two or three are gathered together in the Master's name there He is also.

The red cap unlocks the gate and leads the way down to an unlighted day coach, where for the next 15 minutes they hold a prayer meeting.

Above the rumble of trains and clangor of bells, they recite the Lord's Prayer and go on briskly to pray for the peace of the world, the ending of industrial warfare; class, racial and religious strife; and for the settlement of their own personality problems.

They confide in each other their successes and failures in self-conquest. If Ralston brings some troubled traveler along, they talk of his problems, too. Finally, they offer thanks for the help God has given them in the latest 24 hours. Then they scatter to offices, stores and sidewalks, all declaring themselves strengthened and invigorated.

So rich and so varied have been this brown Samaritan's ministrations that it is difficult to select the most revealing.

One concerns the puffing, red-faced man, heading for his suburban home after a prolonged journey across country. The gate was not yet open as Ralston picked up his bags and the man began to fidget:

"Think I've got time for a snifter before the train leaves?"

Smelling the suburbanite's liquor-laden breath, Ralston asked with a grin: "Would you like a nice chocolate ice-cream soda?"

Ralston's customer shuddered visibly at the thought. "I want liquor!" he proclaimed.

Will Stick Out Neck

When it is necessary, Ralston believes, a Christian must be willing to stick out his neck.

"Why more liquor, mister, when you got so much in you now?" And before the traveler could roar his protest, Ralston rushed on:

"It's only because of your homefolks, mister. That doll under your arm means a little girl waiting for you.

"The box of candy maybe is for your wife. You know they want to see the real you they've been missing so long. Why don't you just stand here and talk to me?"

"Hell of a thing!" the man uttered. Then with unexpected docility, he added: "Maybe you've got something there! If you can entertain me until the train leaves, okay, but the minute I'm bored, I'm going to get that drink!"

Dear Lord, make me entertaining now . . .

"Mister, you look like a sporting man to me. Do you like boxing? So do I. Ever hear of a colored boxer called Henry Armstrong? I carried his bags once.

"He sure has got a wicked left, but he told me when we were walking to the train that a fighter's legs is his best friends. How about Joe Louis? Think he can shed some of that excess baggage he is carrying around?" Finally, the gate was opened.

"Porter," declared Ralston's customer, in parting, "I'll tell you why you've done a good job today. My friends have been warning me to cut out the stuff. So has my wife.

"I always felt okay and would'nt listen. But when a red cap sees it so clear that he dares to talk to me the way you did—black boy, that's enough for me!"

At that moment, Ralston did not see the $5 bill tucked into his hands. His eyes were closed as he offered thanks for something finer than money.

When he came to New York in 1920, Ralston wanted a life of excitement, but he was a moody young man and the fleshpots of Harlem only bored him.

For years he was restless and dissatisfied. Then one Sunday morning he answered a heavy knocking on the door of his sister's flat. An old colored woman stood outside.

"Little girl playing down on the front stoop say she belong here. That right? Then why she don't go to Sunday school like the other children?"

The Lord's Work

Ralston protested that the grownups in the flat worked late on Saturday nights.

"Let me fetch the child, then. I'll take her every Sunday and I'll bring her home safe, too. Rain, snow, hail, wind don't matter to me."

"How come you do that?" asked Ralston. "What's it to you? What do you get out of it?"

"The Lord's work. That's how I keep me happy."

Later Ralston took his little niece to Sunday school. Presently he was convinced that any man could become fearless, compassionate and unconquerable, living without grudges or prejudices, by following the Nazarene.

Having joined the church, Ralston began speaking at meetings. One night a visitor invited him to a gathering in Calvary Church down by Gramercy Park, where I have been rector for the last 20 years.

"But that's a white man's place," objected Ralston.

"Makes no difference."

At Calvary, Ralston learned of our 15 small prayer groups that meet regularly in shops, factories, offices and homes. The next day he started his own spiritual cell in Grand Central.

At the first meeting, held in the waiting room the attendants were another porter, a bewildered traveler who had lost his pocketbook and, from a nearby office, a lawyer member of our church.

As unostentatiously as possible, they read from the New Testament and did their praying with eyes open. The traffic hullabaloo was distracting.

Around Eastertime, Ralston pounced on the idle day coach and, for the last two years, meetings have been held there.

Never Lacks Opportunities

From these underground sessions, Ralston emerges with eruptive zeal, eager to go the second mile, to give his cloak as well as his coat, to do more than is necessary—and opportunities are never lacking.

A woman puts her child on the wrong train; brides are separated from grooms; complications and trouble are incessant.

Ralston gets the train flagged at the next stop and brings back the child; he reunites the newly married lovers.

And while he is working out the shifting pattern of problems, he is binding up the wounds of many spirits.

People, Ralston says, are never hard to manage. If you can just wait one minute longer, rage and panic pass and reason creeps back. Sometimes you must be motherly or fatherly; again sharp and quick; and you must always ask the Lord what to do. The answer never fails.

One rainy eve of the Fourth of July, with crowds milling through the station, a couple drove up to the cab entrance. The young husband was bumptious and inexperienced. As he sprang from the taxi, his wife called out a sugges-

Opportunities are never lacking for Red Cap No. 42. A woman puts her child on the wrong train; brides are separated from grooms; complications and trouble are incessant.

Ralston Young gets the train flagged at the next stop and brings back the child; he reunites the newly married lovers.

And while he is working out the shifting pattern of problems, he is binding up the wounds of many spirits.

Pullman Porter Trouble

They only talk in whispers now, but look for some big doings in the Pullman porter ranks when the final severance of the big financial interest of the corporation is completed.

By a trust-busting decision, the Pullman people were ordered to make a choice between manufacturing Pullman cars and operating Pullman cars. Because of the monopoly, the court decided they could not do both.

This leaves thousands of porters up in the air. They don't know for whom they will work, or whether they will have to negotiate an entirely new contract.

The porters fought long and hard to get their resent agreements under the dynamic leadership of A. Philip Randolph. They don't know whether their new boss, whoever they may be, will be better or worse, so they don't discuss it at all.

Ralston C. Young, Grand Central Station red cap, No. 42.

tion that made him furious. Who in hell was doing this anyway? he snapped back.

Would she just kindly keep her mouth shut? The hurt, shamed look of the wife touched Ralston's heart, and after the baggage was stowed under the seats he called the husband aside:

Must Be Polite to God

"Peacefully, mister, I have to ask you please never to speak to your nice little wife that way. You humiliated her in front of me. She's got God in her; everybody has—and you've got to be polite to God!

"Besides, what she was trying to tell you was right—you hadn't paid the taxi driver. I paid him—$1.10, please!"

One might expect such a man to complain to the station management, but no one has ever reported Ralston. Suddenly losing his brashness, the husband pleaded:

"Now please don't think I'm a bad guy. I just got rattled and lost my temper. I'll go beg her pardon. She's too good for the likes of me, anyhow!"

Others Ridiculed Him

It wasn't long after Ralston got religion that some of the other porters began to turn a full barrage of ridicule his way. "So you are a Christian now? Okay, big boy; we are going to keep your feet to the fire."

Ralston could smile at them all except one poisonous and malicious man, who always seemed to know his weak spots and went after them as a boxer goes after a bloody nose.

Ralston began to brood over this enemy night and day. And then one morning he found himself riding in a bus right behind his tormentor.

"I sat there," Ralston says, "looking at him with hate in my soul. I hated his hat. I hated his coat. I hated the hair on the back of his neck. I hated him!"

When he got off the bus, Ralston was aghast at himself.

"This won't do," he reflected. "I hate that man so much I could easy take a razor to him."

In a closet of the station master's office, Ralston got down on his knees and asked for help.

He remained there for half an hour, but he still did not know what he was going to do when he took his place in line at the Vanderbilt Avenue entrance. At once his foeman started in:

"Look at him. Done his good deed for today and so pleased with himself!"

Will Take Your Burdens

"You are right!" cried Ralston, grabbing the other's arm. "I'm smug, that's what's the mater with me. I've got to get the smugness out of my soul.

"That's why you hurt me so much—because you're telling me God's truth!" The rest was easy.

"All I had to do after that," says Ralston, "was to love the hate right out of that man—and out of myself!"

When your train goes up to Grand Central, perhaps Ralston Crosbie Young will carry your bags.

You may be sure that, if you let him, Red Cap No. 42 will take on your burdens, too!

A Valuable Confidence

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat 4-13-46

One of the job monopolies controlled by Negro workers, never challenged, is that of Pullman porter. The Negro porter and the American sleeping car are as natural to each other as ham is to cabbage. They belong together.

In a recent story about Pullman porters, published in The American Weekly, Carl Mueller wrote:

Sat. 9-10-46

"A young girl staggered under the weight of two suitcases through the Lackawanna Station, Buffalo, N. Y. Refusing help, she searched wearily for her train. At last she halted before a white-coated porter and handed over her luggage with much relief.

"'My mother and our parish priest told me NOT TO TRUST ANYONE BUT THE PULLMAN PORTER,' she smiled.

"The 15,000 Pullman porters are proud of such confidence."

We hope and believe the Pullman porters are proud of such public confidence. It is the most valuable asset they have, valuable to them and valuable to the company which employs them. It is so valuable that it should never be tampered with in any way.

The public confidence has been won by the care, the attention, the diplomacy, the honesty and the sense of responsibility of thousands of porters over a long period of years. In the same way that porters of other years have won this confidence, other porters can destroy it if the majority of the porters themselves are not determined to retain it.

That means that the porters must always stay on top of their job, that they must be alert to maintain the high standards of service they have set.

There are some porters who are flippant, bossy, slick; a few, not many. They are specked apples in the system. The men of character, discipline and intelligence in the service must restrain these others if their most valuable asset, the PUBLIC CONFIDENCE they have won, is not to be lost.

They deserve to hold this job monopoly, not because they are Negroes, but because they give the best imaginable service.

21h 1946

Virginia

ATION'S ONLY NEGRO RADIO CONTROL OPERATOR

With an eagle eye on the control board Charles Banks goes about his business as operator for Radio Station WCHS (Charleston, W. Va.), key station of the West Virginia network. The first Negro to act in such a capacity with any radio station in the U.S., Banks was given the assignment when an operator he had observed for years recently failed to arrive in time to put the station on the air. Thirty-four years of age, he resides with his wife in Charleston. 3-11-46-Sat.

To My Colored Friends

I wish to thank the few Colored workers at J. P. Taylor Co., who voted for the American way of doing things, rather than C. I. O. dictatorship. You may not feel this dictatorship now, but sooner or later you will see it. With the vast majority who voted for the C. I. O. I have no quarrel. The J. P. Taylor Co. has been short-sighted. They did not pay you all they should or could. This is shown by what the other tobacco factories are doing.

I have no apology to make to the C. I. O. Their organization was founded by John L. Lewis, a man who has caused more misery to the less fortunate in America than any other. The C. I. O. carries on the John L. Lewis way of doing things. They have never put a man to work except out of money squeezed out of you.

They have put millions and millions out of work. The thing to remember is that all of us must continue to fight for BETTER RACE RELATIONS.

MORELL CLARKE.

Tom Hatcher Kings' Custodian 37 Years

First Photograph Is Taken Of 58 Year Old Native Of Abingdon, Va.

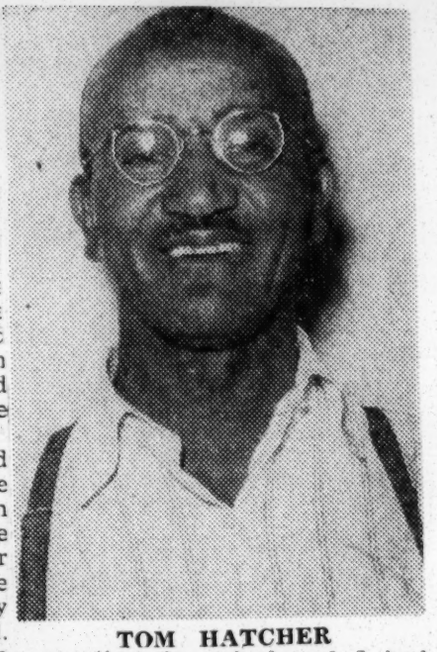
By EVELYN HICKS

Tom Hatcher, who had neve been photographed in all his 5 years of useful living until h faced a news camera a few day ago, has shovelled enough coa in his 37 years with the H. F King company to power a battle ship around the world since h began firing the coal stoves witl which the store was heated bacl in 1909.

A native of Abingdon, Va. Tom came to work for the retai organization at the age of 21 his duties ranging from those o janitor to delivering packages via a horse drawn hack. In more than two decades he has missed only three days of being on the job at the crack of dawn and that absence was due to the death of his only daughter.

Reminiscing on the "horse and buggy days," Tom smiled as he remembered a trip he made on his delivery route in the Willie Boom section one cold winter day in 1910. "It was late in the afternoon and I was in a hurry to get finished up," he recalled. "I hurried in to take a package and forgot to tether my horse. When I went back to the road he was gone. I found him standing down on Shelby street back of the store. He knew it was time for his oats and had taken the first opportunity to head for the end of the line. It did not good, though, for I just had to go back and finish the deliveries."

Firing the many coal stoves needed to warm the store in winter was a hard task, Tom rec. ollected. "Coal and kindling had to be carried up from the alley. It was difficult to keep the store warm and fuel had to be replenished many times each day. Often I had to push through a crowd to get through to the stoves because people would huddle around them to get warm when the weather was especially cold. It seemed like the winters were colder and lasted longer then."



TOM HATCHER

Tom likes conditions better as they are now but there were many things to commend the "good old days." "For instance, my salary was 4.50 a week when I first came to work and out of that I managed to pay rent, feed and clothe my family. You couldn't even buy a week's groceries with that amount now." His salary has gone up considerably since 1909 and in 1920 he bought his own home, finishing the payments on it four years later. He lives in Bristol, Va., at 614 Maple street.

He laughed merrily at the memory of his Christmas gift in 1911. "Mr. Jim Leftwich (well-known Bristolian who died a few years ago) was working in the men's department then. A few days before Christmas he told me to come up front and get my present. I went and he started dropping pennies, nickles and dimes into a box he had me hold. He took a long time doing it and kept asking me if I wasn't getting tired. I answered 'no, sir' every time he asked and I had over $15 in the box when he finished."

In his early youth, Tom worked in Abingdon for Attorneys James and Tom White and Dan Trigg, he said, and then came to Bristol where he was employed by the old St. Lawrence hotel for a time. He says he has been offered at least 50 other jobs since he went to work at King's but has turned them all down. His employers say he is efficient, courteous and dependable and his long record of service speaks for itself.

Hire Negro Yellow Cab Drivers in Milwaukee

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — (ANP) —The Boynton Cab company here broke a precedent on Nov. 27 when four Negro drivers started work as regular drivers of the Yellow Cabs. This is the fist time in the city's history that Negro drivers have been used in this capacity, according to Miss Virginia Huerner of the fair employment division of the Wisconsin Industrial commission. Sat. 12-27-46

Originally, it was proposed that the colored drivers should operate cabs with red tops, but this suggestion was strongly opposed by Negro leaders as being discriminatory.

John T. Wagner, president of the company, then submitted a list of applicants for the jobs to John J. Williams, editor of the Milwaukee Globe, a local Negro newspaper, with the request that he select the four men.

The present drivers are: Alfonso Miller, Arno Thomas, Granville Nate and James Jackson. The men have met with no rebuffs from the public.

Cab Co. in Milwaukee Drops Bars in Hiring

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — (ANP) —Denying that an article appearing in a recent Sunday issue of the Milwaukee Journal that Red Top Cabs were intended for the purpose of segregation also referred to it, a Yellow Cab official said: "It has never been a policy nor practice of this company to discriminate against race or color. Sat. 11-30-46

"We are going to employ colored men and women as cab drivers. All cabs will be the same color (yellow) and all drivers will be protected by the union on the basis of seniority," he added.

21i 1946

Eight Ask $40,000

Jailed, Forced To Work; Sue

Pittsburgh Courier
Pa. Sat. 2-16-46

MIAMI, Fla. — Suits totaling $40,000 were filed in a Miami Superior Court Thursday against three former employes of the Broward County sheriff. The defendants are accused of arresting and forcing eight Negroes to work in the county. 2-16-46

Filing the suits were Bessie Mae Perkins, Lillie Mae Sturgis, Rosalie Hobbs, Trudie Mae Derrow, Pearl Gray, Archie B. Sturgis, Janie Mells and Robert Hobbs.

4 Given Terms In 'Slave' Case

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Dallas, Nov. 8 (AP) — Federal Judge T. Whitfield Davidson today sentenced Sheriff W. J. Price of Rockwall County and Jack Pullen, former sheriff, to one-year prison terms and fined them $1,000 each for violating the civil rights of R. D. Andrew, a Negro. Sat. 11-9-46

Luther Hunter, Rockwall jailer, and William Frazier, Kaufman County constable, convicted of the same charge, were sentenced to six months in jail.

The indictment was based on Andrews' assertion that he was held in jail without being charged, and forced to work on a Rockwall County landowner's farm.

21j 1946

Warrants Issued For Negroes for False Claims

Atlanta, June 27 — Warrants were issued in Savannah last week for 20 negro longshoremen after accusations were filed by the Georgia Department of Labor, Employment Security Agency accusing them of having made false statements in order to illegally receive unemployment compensation benefits.

According to the accusations, the 20 negroes falsely claimed to be unemployed and failed to correctly report the amount of their earnings during the weeks for which they claimed benefits. The agency's records also reveal that 14 of the accused received one or more benefit checks and the alleged false claims of the remaining six were discovered before payments were made.

In a similar case a negro was convicted in the city court of Macon several weeks ago and was sentenced to serve 60 days in jail after receiving $30 in benefit payments while working regularly at a Macon garage.

Trials for the Savannah negroes will be held in the city court of Savannah and all claimants and prospective claimants are being warned by the Employment Security Agency to avoid prosecution by reporting all earnings and employment when filing claims.

Red Caps Win Old Age Funds

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

New Retirement Act Credits Long Service

Sat. 8-17-46

WASHINGTON — Red caps and station ushers with 30 and 40 years service will now get retirement benefits commensurate with their service under the new Railroad Retirement Act passed recently by Congress.

Red cap service is now creditable in the Retirement fund for years preceding 1938 using the year preceding Sept. 1, 1941 as a base wage year.

Previously, retirement benefits were small because they were computed solely on years in which the workers received an actual salary. A formal salary was not awarded to Red Caps until 1938.

Passage of the bill concluded its campaign to make the Red cap an integral working member of the railroad industry, the United Transport Service Employees union, CIO, announced in Chicago.

Prior to 1937, the Red cap faced problems of lack of employee status, dependence upon tips and ineligibility for benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act.

In 1938, the union won a decision from the Interstate Commerce Commission that the red cap was a bona-fide employee of the railroad. A Supreme Court decision in 1941 compelled payment of a basic wage to Red caps under the Wage and Hour Law.

The most recent act, proposed by the UTSE-CIO, in cooperation with officials of the Railroad Retirement Board, had been delayed in Congressional Committees for two years. Among other improvements in the liberalized act are survivors benefits, changes in eligibility pensions, sick and maternity benefits.

21k 1946

Alabama

NEGRO LAUNDRY WORKERS STRIKE

Birmingham, Ala.

By MARY FAIR RUSSELL

MONTGOMERY, Ala.— Breaking a historical tradition herein Montgomery Negro workers of four prominent laundries of the city set an unheard of precedent by striking against their white employers. The four laundries being picketed by Negro workers are Capital City, Troy Laundry, Empire Rooms and Lifsey's. The picketing has been peaceful and within the bounds set by law. Signs carried by picketers were read by white and colored alike. Some of the signs read: "They freed the slaves but what about us"; "We can't live on $9.00 a week"; "Our bosses live in mansions; we live in shacks".

Workers under the CIO are asking for a minimum of forty cents an hour. This increase has been refused by white employers.

Indignant over such unheard proceedings in Montgomery, one of the laundry owners allegedly C. P. Lifsey, has been instrumental in firing into the homes of striking Negroes in an effort to terrorize them. Another laundry owner struck a CIO organizer over the head with the butt of a revolver in a fit or rage, resulting in charges being made against him by the injured man.

These are the things Negroes must guard against when they finally achieve certain rights. The right to vote is the Negroes now. What he does about it however is up to him.

TRUMAN TOLD OF PLOT

Miami Florida Telegram

MOBILE, Ala.— (ANP) —The local NAACP wired President Truman last week about a "well organized effort to drive Negro seamen from ships in several southern ports."

The telegram, sent by J. L. Leflore, executive secretary of the Mobile branch of the NAACP, asked for investigations by "proper Federal agencies" of circumstances surrounding a walkout by 20 crew members of the S.S. Frank H. Dodd, Liberty fighter, here in protest against sailing with a Negro steward.

The Dodd, loaded with UNRRA foodstuffs for Greece, has been tied up in port five days because of the walkout. 2-16-46

The steward, William K. Vance of New York City, contended that "racial discrimination" prompted the walkout but striking crew members said Vance was incompetent and that he had threatened members of the crew. In a statement, they said they would sail with any other Negro. Vance is the only Negro among the 37-man Dodd crew.

2-16-46

In his telegram to the President Mr. Leflore cited three instances in which he said Negro seamen had been forced to leave their ships at Mobile and Pensacola. He also wired Attorney General Clark asking for investigation of a claim by Vance that white crew members of the Dodd had threatened Vance in an effort to force him to leave the ship.

Laundry Worker Released

Birmingham Negro Alabama

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 6 —(AP)—The Alabama Court of Appeals yesterday ordered the release of a Negro laundry worker held in default of a $1,500 peace bond imposed as a result of Montgomery's recent laundry strike. The court held that words which the worker, Alfred Murray, uttered did not constitute a threat of violence.

Alabama Steel Pickets Dent Strike-Corroding Race Bias

Daily Worker

By ROBERT MINOR

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 4.—This is written from the Birmingham suburb of Fairfield—a little town famous for big things. First, the mills of Fairfield, taken together, are the biggest steel plant in the South.

New York N.Y.

Second Fairfield used to be advertised as the place where steel can be made at a lower price than anywhere else in the world—with the slogan **"cheap coal and cheap labor."**

2-5-46

Third the notorious Alabama pro-fascist, Joe Starnes, right-hand man of Martin Dies and John Rankin, used to commute from here to Washington as a political errand boy of the Steel Trust in Congress.

Fourth, because, of all the South, Fairfield is the place where the largest number of Negro workers have been organized in a single great union together with white workers.

Fifth, because Joe Starnes was thrown out of Congress on his head or something in a popular political upsurge in which the United Steelworkers union was the driving force.

The Tennessee Coal & Iron branch of the U. S. Steel Corp. employs 9,000 workers at Fairfield. Nearly half of them work in the plant of the Fairfield Steel Works, about 2,000 more in the tin mill and 1,200 in the sheet mill, the rest in the wire mill and coke works.

From plant to plant, the proportion of Negroes ranges from more than one-third to more than half. Every white steel worker says plainly that there could not be any union in Fairfield except one that organizes white and Negro steel workers together.

A white picket said to me, **"the Negroes prove in the fight that they are the best union men."** He added: **"They sure do stop 'em."**

PICKET LINES

2-5-46

At one gate all the pickets were white, which obviously is a serious mistake from the viewpoint of the need of unity expressed by the white pickets themselves. At another entrance there are separate picket booths, one on each side of the gate, one manned by white pickets, the other by Negro pickets, although they exchange visits between the two. This is a hangover of the old division which spelled ruin in the past and spells danger in the present. At the biggest and most important gate—that of the Fairfield Steel Works—a single shelter is occupied by 16 pickets, about eight whites and eight Negroes. This is the best example of the growing invincibility of the United Steel workers union.

In the general conversation, one of the older white pickets referred to the fact that when the union began organizing white and Negro steel workers together, "that was the beginning of permanent unionism in the steel industry." He said:

"They used to beat the white workers with Negroes, and beat the Negroe workers with whites. Now it can't be done any more.

"In 1904 to 1906 we had a two-year strike in all the mills from Pratt City to Fairfield. The companies succeeded in beating us, playing race against race. One boss had the idea he would like to have all Negroes in the coal mines because he thought he could handle them. But now you see how foolish it was. We are all together now."

A Negro picket at another gate told me the lowest wages received in the mills are $4.84 for an eight-hour shift. That is 60½ cents an hour. If what appears to be the minimum settlement is reached—an 18½ cents an hours raise—it would mean a rise only to $6.32 per eight-hour shift. The picket said with sharp emphasis, "We can't live around here for $4.84; we won't do it any more."

2-5-46

The magnificent work of the United Steelworkers will only have just begun when it wins this strike. It has already done the "impossible" things that are shifting the foundations of the social and political life of the South from the crumbling and ill-smelling ruins of the old slave system to the higher ground of the modern labor movement.

Unionist Killed; Jail Strikers

New York Amsterdam News

New York Sat 2-23-46

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Walter Campbell, a CIO striker, was killed. Otha Williams, a scab, confessed the murder. Yet the grand jury did not indict the murderer. Instead it indicted five officers and members of the striking union under the state's anti-violence law. Only one of the five was with Campbell at the time of the fight which resulted in his murder.

The scene of this southern justice is Little Rock, Arkansas. The struck firm is the Southern Cotton Oil Co. All the strikers are Negroes and many Little Rock citizens see in the indictments a move to prevent the state's Negroes from organizing.

Upon receiving the appeal from the Southern Cotton Oil Co. Strikers Defense Committee (119 Glover Building, Little Rock), the Workers Defense League sent a $25 check plus an offer of legal aid. In an accompanying letter, Rowland Watts, associate WDL national secretary, wrote: "The death of your member, Walter Campbell, resulting from knife wounds inflicted during a fight with scabs, seems a natural outcome of Arkansas' anti-labor legislation and of Westbrook Pegler's October 15 column calling for arming of strikebreakers."

Ark. Frames 5 Negro Strikers

The Worker New York, N.Y.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 11.—Five Negro cotton oil mill strikers have been indicted under the anti-labor Act 193, the "Anti-Violence," they will go on trial March 18, although there has been no evidence of violence presented against them.

The real violence which has occurred during the strike was the murder of Walter Campbell, a striker, by Otha Williams, strike-breaker, Williams confessed to the slaying but was released under bond. The defense of the five unionist is being conducted by the Southern Cotton Oil, Company Strikers Defense Committee. Spokesmen for the Committee said they are preparing to bring the case to the highest courts, if necessary, to secure justice for the innocent workers.

Sun 3-10-46

Groups of "Christian American" Associations are attempting to sway public opinions against labor by state wide meetings and expensive ads. They are fighting to save Act 193 to further persecute labor.

3 CIO Strikers Jailed in Ark.

Baltimore Afro-American

Baltimore Sun

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The FTA (Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Allied Workers Union, CIO) will appeal the decision of a Circuit Court jury here on Mar. 19 which found three of six colored strikers guilty of "walking a picket line," and gave each one year in prison.

The pickets, Roy Cole, Louis Jones and Jesse Bean were indicted under Act 193, the Arkansas so-called anti-violence law and are members of FTA Local No. 98 on strike at the Southern Cotton Oil Co. 3-30-46

Slayer Goes Free

Three other pickets under indictment will be tried at the next term of court. Motions to quash the indictments (including protests against an all-white jury) were overruled by Judge Lawrence C. Auten without reading them. 3-30-46

Although bond in such cases is $1000, appeal bond for the three defendants was fixed at $2,500 each. Otha Williams, a scab, who slew Walter Campbell, another striker, was set free by the same jury which convicted the pickets.

Tell Public Longshore Demands

AIRING THEIR DEMANDS, San Francisco longshoremen tell 12 million listeners over CIO radio program "Cross-Section U.S.A." why they voted "yes" in their strike ballot. Shown at radio station are (l. to r.): unionists Leon Barlow, Bill McGee, Rieno Erkilla and CBS commentator Bill Downs.

GOSSIP OF THE MOVIE LOTS

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

By Harry Levette

HOLLYWOOD — (ANP) — It is considered a crying shame in the ranks of sepia movie players that they too have to suffer from the unwarranted, unreasonable and actually silly strike between two identical unions, both under the AFL banner as to which shall be recognized.

With eight of the major studios daily picketed by the protesting unions, and with production greatly hampered at some 12 more majors and 20 independent companies, it is the lower salaried "bit" people at $25, and the atmosphere or "extra" players at $10.50 per day, who are the real suffers. The famous stars whose salaries run into the thousand per week can stand it, but the little people it is taking bread and butter out of their mouths.

In fact neither they nor the many strickers who were out do the same kind of jurisdictional strike last year at this time and all winter have quite recovered from the long loss of employment. Not only do they dislike passing through picket lines, but many productions staffs suspend calls until the situation is remedied. There is always danger of being attacked or accidentally injured in the bitter bloody fighting that has been going on for a week between opposing strikers and the hundreds of police and special deputies massed in front of the gates.

Besides the colored players there are 125 men and women, maids, janitors, set service men and other at Warner Bros., many of whom have remained home since the trouble started, also over 35 of Paramount, about 40 at MGM, and lesser numbers employed in various other capacities at the other lots. *Sat. 10-19-46*

Those who continue to work, can only do so safely by sleeping in dormitories prepared for them on the premises.

Striking Studio Unions Lily-White

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. 21K

By HARRY LEVITTE

HOLLYWOOD (ANP) — Very few players or actors of any hue are working, because of the repetition of last year's strike between two Jim-Crow AFL technicians' unions. Neither of the two will even admit colored electricians, camera men, make-up men and women, or any of the many good high salaried jobs open to other nationalities. *Sat. 11-30-46*

Most of the violence and mass arrests are taking place daily at the very studios that have new pictures scheduled that include colored cast. They're all forced to shelve the majority of the production until it will be possible to get full crews for production.

21k 1946

Florida

Latin-American Seamen Strike Starvation Ship

the Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
1-17-46

By Federated Press

TAMPA, Fla., Jan. 16.—Tampa's waterfront was rocked by a walk-out of Cuban and Guatemalan seamen. Backed by the local branch of the National Maritime Union, they walked off the Canadian-owned banana freighter Patdoris, because of miserable wages, filthy living conditions and racial discrimination.

Local newspapers carried picture spreads showing conditions on the ship as the men, members of the National Maritime Federation of Cuba, met in the NMU hall and drew up a petition to Cuban President Ramon Grau San Martin asking for the removal of Guillermo Bolivar, Cuban consul in Tampa. Bolivar, declared union ship committeemen Angel Felipe Martinez and Rizzio Suarez, gave them advice which would have resulted in their being jailed and deported.

Martinez and Suarez told Federated Press that a previous petition to Capt. Rene Courmier had been rejected with the comment, "You dirty n——s can get off the ship if you don't like it here."

"We were given daily rations of two eggs and three pounds of rice."

21k 1946 General

— Views on Labor News

Negroes, Vets Win Labor Praise

Daily Worker New York

2-12-46

by George Morris

TOURING through the strike fields, one observes many new features and a marked advancement over past struggles. But the two most noteworthy are the high level of Negro-white unity and the obvious veteran support for the strikers.

History will undoubtedly note that in this strike wave the Negro has come forward aggressively to a point of full citizenship in the labor movement. If we were to divide the development of unionism among the Negroes in stages, I would give four.

1. Prior to and immediately after World War 1, when Negroes were not even admitted into most unions and were actually thrown into the hands of employers to be used against white organized labor.

2-12-46

2. The period from the early 20's to the middle 30's, when through slow and steady efforts, chiefly of the left wing movement led by William Z. Foster, Negroes were encouraged and trained to be active unionists.

3. During the 1937 strike wave with the rise of the CIO, when for the first time large numbers of Negro workers were unionized and enjoyed equality and real union democracy. But at that time Negroes were in the main, still not too sure of the welcome given them in labor ranks. They were skeptical, as they had a right in view of the bitter history with the AFL.

4. The Negro worker today feels more at home in the labor movement than at any other time. His devotion is deep for his union.

Most Militant Strikers

Efforts to inject racial strife continue. It is not an accident that the fascist Gerald L. K. Smith has been touring strike fields speaking at mass meetings. But everywhere racial propaganda is less effective than ever.

The surge of Negro unionism is evident among the steel strikers. **The percentage of Negroes in** many plants runs as high as 25 percent. It is that much at the Gary Works of Carnegie-Illinois, largest of the U. S. Steel Corp. The percentage is not much lower in the South Chicago plants. Most often, however, the Negro percentage of pickets is larger.

The picture is most dramatic in Packing. Herb March, regional director of Chicago's Packinghouse Workers, told me that on occasions Negroes made up well over 75 percent of the picket line. His union is about 50-50 Negro and white.

Later when I accompanied March on a noon-hour tour through the yards I realized the kind of unity that made the Packinghouse victory possible. March is the kind of a labor leader who keeps contact with his members every day. When he arrived at the "CIO corner" scores of shop stewards and committeemen besieged him on numerous matters. The number of Negroes is remarkably large.

2-12-46

The number of Negro officers of local unions is growing fast, too. I met many in the steel towns. But the Packinghouse workers unquestionably are first in that respect, with men like Sam Parks, president of the large Wilson local, and Sam Curry, secretary of the Armour local.

I have heard many opinions that Negroes are the most devoted strikers.

"There wasn't a murmur from any of them," said March. "The myth that the Negro is a strikebreaker was smashed completely and for good."

Incidentally, looking over the situation in Chicago, I came to the conclusion that thanks to the steel, farm equipment, packing and other groups, Negro union leadership is now more pronounced there than in New York.

Veterans Make Dynamic Strikers

The activity of veterans in the strike really convinces you that these men feel their fight wasn't over. The committee to mobilize the veterans is an inevitable part of every strike machinery.

The idea of "showing up with your uniform" is now a universal one. The most common sentiment I sensed among the vets is the feeling that there isn't enough doing in the strikes.

2-12-46

We have heard it often said veterans of this war are not lending themselves to reaction, as was so prevalent after World War I. But it took the current strike wave to prove it. The corporations have put out some feelers. When the GM strike was in its first week, a mysterious "Capt. Packard" received much newspaper publicity when he announced a back-to-work movement of veterans in Flint. After all the press ballyhoo, his meeting brought only several hundred CIO veterans who came to tell him what they think of him. When they walked out, Packard remained alone.

Negro Union Leaders Urge Strike Support

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

2-18-46

More than 40 Negro trade union officials, AFL and CIO, have joined in an appeal through the National Negro Congress to all Negro Americans for full support to the wage and strike struggles of organized labor today.

Strikebreaking Defender Trend Worries Race Leaders

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 12-7-46

JONESBORO, Ark. — (Special to Defender) — The willingness of Negroes to work with whites as strikebreakers in the cotton fields of the St. Francis River Delta area near Lake City was regarded as prophetic this week by race leaders.

White cotton pickers struck several days ago in protest against "starvation pay." The strikers are demanding four dollars per 100 pounds instead of $3.

Planters are not disturbed by the situation, declaring that it is too late in the season and labor is too plentiful for the strike to be effective. Most of the crop was harvested earlier when cotton was bringing record prices.

Greater concern is expressed by Negro leaders who have warned that with increasing unemployment and a threatened weakening of the Wagner Labor act by the new Congress, unless fair employment legislation is enacted, Negroes, seeking work, will be forced more and more to resort to strikebreaking to make a living.

Protecting the Victory

(Reprinted from yesterday's issue of The Worker)

Daily Worker New York 2-18-46

THE settlement of the United States Steel Corp. strike is a great victory for steel workers and all labor. The 18½ cents an hour raise is the highest ever won by workers in any major field on an industry-wide scope.

But this is only one round in the struggle. Still to be hammered out are victories over General Electric, Westinghouse Electric, International Harvester, the General Motors auto division and possible holdouts in steel. Settlements in these fields may still require a stiff struggle.

The strike is a defeat for big business' union-busting plans. Thanks to CIO initiative and particularly to the force of the powerful United Steelworkers, the offensive of the trusts was not only blocked but labor's counter-offensive even won it some advantages.

The outcome was a great tribute to the solidarity with the strikers that came from millions of people from all walks of life, entire town populations, and foremost from the veterans. The Negro-white unity in the ranks of strikers was unequalled in our long history of struggles.

Amove all, the victory is the result of a concerted effort that brought several powerful CIO unions out together with a total of some 1,750,000 strikers. When such united and solid support was displayed, the trusts knew that picking off unions "one at a time" would not work now as it did after the last war. Moreover, they saw the growing support from AFL ranks and knew that an attempt to pit one section of labor against another would not work.

To the 750,000 steel workers, undoubtedly, goes the major credit for forcing up the "general pattern" of wage raises, as the President calls it, to the 15 to 20 percent range. Until the steel strike the best offer was 10 percent to the William Green-Lewises who have been who have been willing to "break its neck" in this wage struggle.

INFLATION MENACE REMAINS

Mar 2-19-46

Nevertheless, it must not be forgotten that even as the workers return to work, plans are under way to pick their pockets through the medium of price increases. Under capitalism, it is the lot of workers to continually prices, the cost of living and taxes. Those who don't organize and struggle, cannot even preserve a living standard, much less raise it.

The Truman administration, regards this perpetual race with hunger as a cardinal condition for "free enterprise." The steel industry is given a \$5 increase on a ton of steel which, according to the figures of the President's own advisors, is far above the increase in labor cost.

An Editorial

The same pattern of passing the cost on to consumers and preserving the wartime scale of profits, is being put through in all industries.

Thus, the strike victories, great as they are, point to new threats and new tasks for labor.

Task 1. The tremendous force and organization that was thrown against the trusts for wage raises, must swing out as a gigantic movement against price increases. The corporations are trying to put the blame for price increases upon unions. At the same time, the National Association of Manufacturers is demanding an end to all price control. The labor movement could defeat this conspiracy by leading a nationwide popular movement against the high cost of living.

Task 2. This is the time to organize the unorganized and do it on all cylinders. Millions of workers either unorganized, or in ineffective "independent" unions, are not getting wage increases, but they will pay higher prices. The advantages of real unionism are more apparent to them now than ever. The CIO and AFL must show them how.

Task 3. The Case bill and other pending legislation are only indications of what big business is preparing. The plan is to pass laws restricting labor for a later showdown with unions, to smash them and reverse the upward trend started by the CIO. Whether reaction succeeds or not will be determined by the political strength, unity and public support that

NEW TASKS

labor can show.

Labor cannot afford to rest upon its laurels. There are more battles to be fought. Only immediate action along the above lines can protect its victories.

Randolph Says Negro Has Stake In Strikes

NEW YORK— (SNS)— Because 99 9/10% of Negroes work for a living with hand or brain, and therefore are an integral part of the working class that depends on wages for food, clothing and shelter, education and recreation and a decent standard of living they have a basic and vital stake in the strikes that are now sweeping the nation. If the workers are defeated in these strikes, the Negroes and all other minorities are defeated too, because they will suffer from reduced purchasing power, which in turn is the cause of financial and industrial depressions, during which time Negroes are the first fired and last hired.

All Negro leaders and organizations, states A. Philip Randolph, International President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in the headquarters in New York City, have a moral obligation and an economic interest in giving their moral and financial support to the workers who are fighting for bread and life in the steel, packing, automobile, electric telephone and railroad industries, as well as any other industry, CIO or AF of L controlled, in which the struggle for more wages and better working conditions by the workers are going on.

'Shrewd Racial Strategy' Or Negro-White Unity?

By Claudia Jones

Sharp opposition has been reflected among labor and the Negro people generally to the Truman Administration's anti-labor legislation proposals and practices.

The Negro working masses have stood forthright on the proposition that any attack against labor's hard won right to strike and bargain collectively is against their basic self-interest.

This was seen in the CIO-AFL Negro-white unionists' stand at the convention of the National Negro Congress about two weeks ago. These Negro unionists, with their white allies, scored Truman's breaking of the railroad strike and his anti-strike labor legislation proposals, as "the first sure step on the road to fascism in the United States." They recognized further that the interest of the Negro people "as a whole lies with that of organized labor."

As befits these unionists, they also took issue with the pro-discriminatory policies of the Railroad Brotherhoods toward Negro workers.

In a call for unity against the Truman anti-labor proposals, these unionists admonished the Railroad Brotherhoods "to end discrimination within their own ranks." This, they held, would benefit not only the Negro people but all who believe in freedom and democracy.

The Truman veto of the Case anti-labor bill was upheld by the House largely because of the tremendous protest of the labor movement and its allies, but the slimness of the vote margin should indicate that the danger is not over. Truman's veto message emphasized he wants more drastic and permanent shackles on labor.

All of which should emphasize that in the next round the labor movement and the Negro people must be united as never before against the Truman bill.

A DIFFERENT PROPOSAL

How have certain Negro leaders reacted to these anti-labor measures?

A case in point are the recent articles by Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League.

In his weekly column, "Battle Axe and Bread" in the N. Y. Amsterdam News (June 8 and 15), Granger takes issue with those who "blindly support or oppose the White House proposal" to shackle labor. Mr. Granger, unfortunately, repeats the false arguments of the rail and ship magnates, who hold that striking American workers "threatened to cripple the American economy and to starve millions of persons overseas." He is particularly vitriolic against union leaders who charge Truman with "treason against the American people."

Granger doesn't give the President carte blanche approval, however. He holds that the Truman proposal is "unwise at several points, and especially dangerous in recommending that strikers against government-operated industry be drafted into the armed services of the country."

Through acceptance of "grains of salt" from the Truman policy Granger's conclusions naturally lead to anything but a forthright stand in support of labor against the Truman proposals. Rather than point in the direction of solidifying the unity of the Negro people with labor, Granger holds that "Negro leadership has a tremendous opportunity and responsibility in this moment of crisis." And what is that "opportunity"? In his words: "A call for shrewd racial strategy exercised at a moment of crisis evidenced graphically in the approximate strikebreaking advice of A. Phillip Randolph, Social-Democratic Negro leader and president of the Brotherhod of Sleeping Car Porters, who five days before the rail strike called on Truman to protect the rights of Negro workers to work on the roads.

Granger's advice does not go as far as Randolph's. But it flies in the face of all experience of the last decade in which Negro-white unity helped advance the struggle for full equality for the Negro people. Surely today, with both labor and the Negro people under Big Business attack, this experience is not only valuable, it must be strengthened in mutual struggle against common enemies.

opportunity."

True enough, Granger appears to have genuine concern over the anti-Negro discrimnation still practiced by the railroad brotherhoods and its leaders.

About 13 of the 16 RR brotherhoods still practice discrimination.

There is complete truth to his charge that "for more than ten years the railway brotherhoods have conducted an intensive drive to oust every Negro from an operative or maintenance job on American railroads."

We can agree with him that "any proposal . . . to leave the railway brotherhoods as they stand today is dishonest in its intention and disastrous to the welfare of 13,000,000 Negro Americans." Such, we may add, is disastrous to labor and the nation as a whole. And not only proclamations but a fight within labor's ranks to eliminate this practice is needed.

But is a "shrewd racial strategy" the real issue? Granger protests that "this is not a middle-of-the-road suggestion." Indeed it is not! Its essence is to tell the Negro people "to go it alone."

It places its advocate in the position of suggesting to the Negro people—in the midst of the greatest threat to its most reliable ally—that they be guided by a "race" strategy —at a moment when both the Negro people and labor are recipients of Big Business—fascist practices of lynch terror, intimidation, drafting of all labor, Negro and white, and eliminating labor's hard won gains!

Such a "shrewd racial policy" has a "logic" of its own. Such was

21k 1946

Georgia

WORK HALTED

Atlanta, Oct. 7. (AP)—Production of pencils at the Scripto Manufacturing Company here was halted today when between 450 and 550 negro members of the United Steelworkers of America (CIO) struck. Both company and union officials said the strike resulted from failure to negotiate a contract between the company and the union.

Parson's Home Set Blazing

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
Thurs. 10-17-46

C. M. Cobb, Negro preacher, was awakened about midnight Tuesday by a fusillade of rocks hurled against his porch. He snatched up a shotgun and rushed out to find the entire west side of his house, 676 Angier Avenue, blazing. There was a strong reek of gasoline in the air. An automobile was seen speeding away.

Wednesday, Cobb's friends were preparing for guerrilla warfare. Cobb boards four Negro employes of a plant in which most of the Negro workmen are out on a wildcat strike. He told Patrolmen B. G. Holland and R. C. Pendley his boarders refused to join the strikers.

Tuesday, Cobb said, he was a bystander during a dispute between his boarders and two carloads of Negroes who followed a company truck which came to his house to pick up his boarders. At that time, Cobb said, a voice from the strikers' car yelled:

"We goin' to get you, preacher."

400 Strike In Atlanta

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

CIO Stops Work At Scripto Plant

Sat. 12-14-46

ATLANTA—(ANP)—The picket line which was thrown around Scripto plant by representatives of over 400 Negro workers continued last week, while strike breakers were taken into the plant under police escort.

The plant has resisted efforts of unionization for years. During the war, when it was converted to the production of shells, Scripto reportedly paid most of its workers less than 50 cents an hour.

According to Oscar R. Thomas, organizer, an election was conducted in the plant to determine the collective bargaining agent for the workers on Feb. 2, which resulted in a tie between the CIO and the company. In the run-off Feb. 20, CIO won over the company.

Thomas said the management fought against certification of the election and later refused to negotiate a contract. Nothing tangible was accomplished even though a federal conciliator was called in.

While the union and management were unable to agree on certain clauses in the contract, Thomas cited the clause dealing with wages, pointing out that in spite of the fact that many of the approximately 450 Negroes were doing skilled work in the plant, such as operating drill presses, shaving and moulding machines, etc., management wanted to pay these workers below standard wages.

21k 1946 Illinois

In Chicago, CIO steel leaders discuss strategy. They are, front row, left to right: Frank Adams, Local 1033, Republic Steel; Albert Towers, president, Local 65, Carnegie-Illinois; Joseph Cook, president, Local 1029, Valley Mould; William Wurl, president, Local 3068, Bethlehem; and George Krilick, president, Local 1008, Youngstown Steel. Rear: International Representatives Sam Taylor, Norman Harris and John Doswald.

—AP Photo

STOCKYARDS PICKET CARRIED OFF—Policemen carry off a picket at the Chicago stockyards January 19 after a group of striking packinghouse employees were apprehended by officers for blocking entrances to the yards.

Why the Steel Workers Are on Strike

STEEL WORKERS CAN DISPENSE WITH FACT-FINDING BOARDS; THEY KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO GET 30 PCT. LESS

By CARL HIRSCH

CHICAGO.—What are the steel workers striking for?

The answer to that question becomes apparent when you go into their homes and talk to them and their wives about the bread-and-butter problems they are facing.

"There is nothing abstract about the issues in this strike," declared FRED CLEMONS, who has worked in the South Chicago mills. "The demand for $2 has a real meaning in the family budget of every steel worker."

Young ISAAC FOSTER was a 19-year old student when he went

ISAAC FOSTER

WILLETT ARNOLD

into the army five years ago. He fought with distinction in the European Theatre and was decorated with two battle stars.

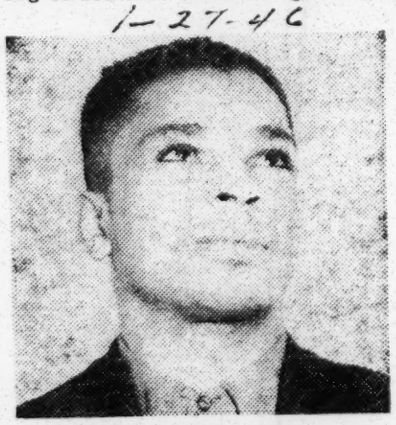
"I've only been working in the mill a short time," he declared, "but it didn't take me long to realize that my place was with the union."

Foster has a wife and two children to support and this family is having a hard time making ends meet after years on an army allotment.

"In this strike battle," he pointed out, "we're finishing up the fight against fascism for a decent way of life."

That some decent things can be won through a fight is obvious to S. WASHINGTON, who lives in the Altgeld Gardens, a handsome federal housing project, populated by steel workers.

"We won these homes through a long hard fight," he said, "and it was worth it. Now we're fighting to see that these things aren't



S. WASHINGTON

CHARLES CHRISTMAS

taken away from us. That's what the strike for $2 a day increases means to me."

A neighbor of his, WILLETT ARNOLD, also works in the Valley Mould Mill, where the workers expressed their determination to fight with a 39 to one strike vote.

"The problem with us just boils down to the need for food and clothes for our families. What better reason is there for a man to go out on strike?"

CHARLES CHRISTMAS is a young steelworker who, in spite of his name remarks that "there is no Santa Claus."

"We've found that whatever we get, we've got to put up a fight for."

Christmas supports his wife, a child and his mother.

"They talk about high wartime wages. Well, we've had a hard time getting along even during the war. Today, there are many things we need. Clothes become worn out, the house needs fixing up, and with prices going up and wages down, there is less and less food on the table. That's why I'm 100 percent behind this strike!"

FRED CLEMONS

UNIONS PROTEST

The Defender

Four Pickets Beaten By Police

Chicago, Ill.

Waiting till the picket line at the strikebound Automatic Devices Plant in Chicago, had thinned down to 20 Negro men, city police this week mercilessly beat down four of the pickets, including a veteran, and dispersed from the premises approximately 65 others, many of them women.

CIO labor leaders immediately protested the wanton police slugging to Mayor Edward J. Kelly, declaring in a flood of telegrams that the attack was the "most brutal exhibition of deliberate police violence seen in Chicago since the Memorial Day massacre of 1937. The strike was said to have grown out of the company's refusal to negotiate an increase for underpaid workers.

Sat. 10-19-46

Slugging of the pickets by police headed by Capt. George Barnes of the labor detail, climaxed several days of peaceful picketing by more than 150 white and Negro employees at the plant.

In an attempt to absolve his officers from blame, Capt. Barnes, who admitted police had struck despite "no violence" orders, said it was their only alternative since the pickets had attacked first.

"This is the first time since I have been in the police department and in charge of the labor detail that we had to protect ourselves from Negro pickets," he said. But union officials said that violence was inspired by the firm in an effort to wreck the union and get rid of Negroes it was forced to hire during the war.

In a sworn statement to the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, the severely beaten victims declared police set off the fireworks by breaking through the picket line to assist a strikebreaker from the plant.

"When the police were coming out of the plant with the worker, someone yelled: 'There he is' and the officers started to swing their clubs," said Robert S. Johnson, 38, of 6154 Indiana ave.

Johnson charged Captain Barnes with using a blackjack and said he struck him on the side of his head. Eleven stitches were taken in his side.

"After Captain Barnes hit me, another policeman struck me in the same place," Johnson added. "The blow knocked me to the ground. While I was still clinging to the sign, I was hit in the forehead, the blow knocking me flat on my back.

Continuing, Johnson said: "Getting up, I was hit again, and while being pushed to the patrol wagon, I was punched with a club."

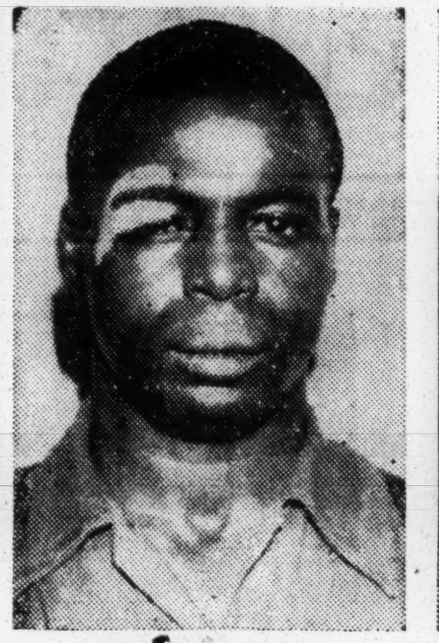
After treatment in the Bridewell Hospital, Johnson said he and James Veal, 30, of 1939 W. Taylor st., and Joe Canada, 31, of 3522 Princeton st., were put in a cell.

Johnson quoted Captain Barnes as saying: "You boys (pointing to Veal) don't ever get tough with a policeman."

PICKETS SLUGGED BY POLICE

The Defender

ROBERT S. JOHNSON



OTIS SHEFFIELD

JAMES VEAL

Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-19-46

Their heads and bodies showing evidence of terrific slugging, these members of the United Automobile Workers of America (CIO), Local 453, were beaten into submission by police of Capt. George Barnes' labor detail while picketing strike-bound American Automatic Devices Co. at 530 S. Throop st. Although picket line encircling plant was composed of both white and colored workers, only Negroes were attacked.

When Captain Barnes observed that the picket line had dispersed to 20 Negro marchers, he drove away and returned with two patrol wagons and five squad cars, declared James Veal.

"But the police, led by Captain Barnes, circled the picket line and took out their clubs. One of them went into the plant to get a worker. When he came out with the man, the crowd said, 'There he is.'

Police Swing Clubs

"At the sound of their voices, the policeman started to swing their clubs, hitting and beating the pickets. I was struck over the head without saying a word," he continued.

"After I was put in one of the patrol wagons, Captain Barnes stepped up and said: 'I'll show you who is boss around here. This is what you're going to get from now on.'

"While one of the policemen held me the other hit me. At the Bridewell Hosptal, I told one of the officers that I had been fighting in the army and could they tell me what I was fighting for then."

21k 1946 Indiana

Indiana Governor Spurns Vets

Daily Worker

DELEGATION OF 200 STRIKERS PRESENT DEMANDS

Special to the Daily Worker New York

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 12.—A mass delegation of 200 striking veterans, representing steel workers from Gary, General Electric workers from Kokomo, rubber from Mishawaka and auto from South Bend and Indianapolis, converged on Indiana's capitol Friday to place demands before Governor Ralph Gates.

The vets demanded unemployment compensation for strikers, an adequate state housing program for vets and additional veterans' hospitalization. They also asked the governor to throw his influence behind liberalizing the GI Bill of Rights and urged him to take a stand against the Case bill.

The GOP governor refused to take any responsibility for the Republican Party of which he is the titular head. After stating that he would "consider" calling a special session of the legislature he added that . . . legislators are free and independent citizens in their own right and I would not try to dictate to them."

On the Case bill he asserted he "had no influence over Congressmen" in Indiana, all of whom are Republican but one.

He also declared that "the state will never sponsor a program of low cost housing until the resources of private industry are exhausted." He called unemployment compensation a "purely federal question" and said that a state veterans' bonus would mean an "enormous cost of such a program."

The veterans were greeted by Indianapolis strikers. The GM strike kitchen provided hot coffee and doughnuts as the delegates started arriving after an all-night ride from the steel struck areas of Lake County.

After marching to the state house carrying banners with "We will not scab to eat," "Give us seniority or no votes"—"No more apples," the veterans formed a car cavalcade and demonstrated their solidarity with the local steel and auto pickets.

2-13-46

The delegation, included many Negro, Mexican and various national group workers.

Port Workers Start Sit-Down Strike In Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica—(ANP)—More than 45,000 port workers went on strike here last week demanding increased wages. Alexander Bustamente, leader of the Jamaican Legislature and prominent in labor affairs, ordered the port workers not to load sugar until the worker's demands for increased wages had been met.

Bustamente said that the manufacturers were making more than $1,000,000 from the current sugar crop and offered the workers only about $400,000 in increased wages. He said he wanted $600,000 and was prepared to fight for it for the workers.

Jamaica Ends 24-Day Strike; Eighteen Dead

KINGSTON, Jamaica — (ANP)— The 24-day old strike of island utility workers, marked with violence and a death toll of 18, was announced settled here last week by officials of the trades union council. The strike, which involved employes of the mental hospital, prisons, railways, and the local fire brigade, began Feb. 15 when nurses and attendants walked out of the hospital after demands for an increase in wages, improved working conditions, and dismissal of the superintendent were not met.

Between 60 and 70 members of the hospital staff, who participated in the strike and were replaced by the government, will be unemployed until vacancies occur in some government department, it was reported. Other strikers were expected to return to work immediately.

Terms of the strike settlement were not announced, but council officials announced that strikers would not be penalized. Hospital workers were without jobs despite this announcement.

Strike Hits Jamaica Again; Labor Dictator Held for Manslaughter

KINGSTON, Jamaica, B.W.I.—This historic riot-torn island was again paralyzed last Saturday when the Bustamente Industrial Union called a strike in an effort to force officials to drop manslaughter charges against William A. Bustamente, their leader, island labor boss, and Minister of Communications.

Bustamente and Frank Pixley, Minister of Social Service, face trial Apr. 24 on charges arising from the fatal beating, Feb. 16, of John Nicholas when his union clashed with the rival Trade Union Council headed by Norman Manley, barrister and legislator.

The TUC sent a delegate to London to demand the recall of Sir John Nuggins, governor, who sided with Bustamente, whom the TUC hand the People's National Party charged led a mob of 4,000 of his dock workers against TUC strikers at the insane asylum on Feb. 16.

1-29-46

Associated Press Wirephoto.

BACK TO WORK—A packing-house worker at Wilson & Company in Kansas City, Kan., points to his badge as a guard checks employees returning to their jobs. They went back yesterday after Government seizure of plants Saturday.

Liberian Strikers List Grievances

Journal - Guide Norfolk, Va.

By JACOB BROWNE

MONROVIA, (ANP) — Liberian workers who walked out of the offices, from the field, and the camp of the Raymond Concrete Pile Company and the United States Navy, contractors for the building of a port and harbor at Monrovia, have a long list of grievances.

For a long time the attention of the company either directly or indirectly has been called to the inadequate wage scale paid Liberian employees but no reaction has ever been forthcoming. The demands brought forward are:

1. Revision of wages: The contention in this is that the present inequality existing in the wage scale of the local clerical and technical members of the staff as compared with Americans and foreigners from other countries should not exist beyond 20 per cent allowance for overseas services, and an adjustment in that [illegible] should be effective as fro[illegible]st of December.

2. Although [illegible] f Liberia provide for a [illegible] week, yet Liberians are re[illegible] to put in up to 84 hours a week with payment of overtime. They are made to work on Sundays and holidays without any extra consideration. Americans and other foreigners employed receive overtime pay regularly in addition to their fabulous pay.

MEDICAL ATTENTION

3. Medical attention: Under the present system, local personnel who sustain injuries only on the job are entitled to medical attention. In the case of a foreign employe, medical attention—and the best of that—is given for any complaint except venereal disease. Although a most modern hospital has been erected at the camp, yet Liberians are refused entrance therein, and must confine themselves to a ward in one of the hospitals in the city. Hardly any attention is given to the complaints of the workers by the company's doctor, for, being a foreigner, his interest is only in the welfare of the foreign personnel. Although it was suggested to the company for provision to be made in their hospital for the African staff, this was flatly denied by the company.

4. Canteen privileges: All supplies from the canteen are imported into Liberia duty free, but sold only to white employees. This privilege is denied African workers although the contract grants the right to all the employes of the company. Foreign employes of the company have the advantage of being exempted from the payment of visas, permit of residence, and duty free on all goods imported into the country. By denying canteen privileges to African workers, they enjoy another right of purchasing articles at cost price, whilst other employes have to get those articles at a higher price inclusive of duty charges and the percentage allowed.

NO INSURANCE

5. No insurance coverage is made for any African employe. Despite the hazards entailed in a project which might result in injury death at any moment, no African worker is insured. They work at their own risk without the hope of a tomorrow.

6. A foreign employe driving a Euclid truck is paid $2.08 per hour, while a Liberian performing the same task receives $1.25 per day, and that is the maximum he can receive at any time. The highest paid Liberian mechanic receives only $1.50 per day.

7. The unskilled workers suffer a greater disadvantage for being illiterate, no one pays attention to their plea. They are fired on the flimsiest pretext without notice and sometimes without pay. There is no way of bringing this to the attention of anyone. If he is short-paid and makes inquiry at the pay office, he is fired and payment of amount due already worked for denied him.

These are some of the grounds for the strike. Although the laborers are exposed to every imaginable hazard and risk, the wage scale does not exceed 24 cents per day. Their work includes working under steel cranes where one slip would mean the end of their existence; drilling, preparing dynamite blasts, etc. Drivers receive no more than $1.25 per day, and this takes in driving heavy duty trucks of fifteen and twenty tons. It is reported that after driving one of these trucks for three days, a Liberian driver took sick and vomited blood, for this was his compensation for $1.25 per diem. The same truck driven by white employees, the rate paid them is $2.04 per hour. 1-19-46

CLERICAL STAFF

In the clerical staff, no Liberian receives higher than $125 monthly. The pay ranges from $25 to $125, and only two Liberians in the clerical staff receive a small margin over $100, monthly. No Liberian technician is paid over $300. Although an imported American timekeeper and general clerk is started with $300, plus overtime and extra privileges; a foreign timekeeper's income exceeds that of a qualified local technician.

With the presence of Rear Adm. Henry F. Burns, chief of the Atlantic operations of the bureau of yards and docks, and W. V. McMenimen, vice president and general manager of the Raymond Concrete Tile Company, an opportunity is given them to look into the inequalities being practiced on Liberian labor by the company here.

Liberians welcome concessions and enterprises into their country at any time, if it would insure to the good of the masses. This practice of giving no protection, or consideration to Liberian labor has been going on with all foreign concerns here. At Firestone, where the Liberian Wage law is not in operation, workers are treated like chattles by their would-be white masters. They utter their complaints but they always fall on deaf ears. The result is that although a hydro-electric plant is in operation over the entire Firestone area, yet African workers are denied power therefrom. Although homes (?) are erected for African employes, yet the worst foreign-occupied home on the plantations is immeasurably better than the best home occupied by an African employe.

Liberia Port Workers Strike

Daily World Atlanta

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(NNPA) —Liberian construction workers of the Raymond Concrete Pile Company, a New York firm which is building a port for the Liberian government, are again on strike in Monrovia, it was learned last Tuesday. Sunday 7-14-46

Despite a 25 per cent wage increase granted them several months ago due to the hazards of their work, the 1,500 Liberians are again out, this time demanding automatic pay raises, leave with pay, compensation for non-occupational illness and the dismissal of a Liberian labor relations officer employed by the firm, it was reported here.

Work on the project which will give Liberia an important seaport on the African coast, is far from being completed according to information received. One breakwater in the harbor has been completed and work started on another, it was reported.

Liberian Strikers List Their Demands

Want Wage Revision, 48-Hour Week, Medical Care, No Bias

New York Amsterdam News

By JACOB BROWNE

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2. Although the laws of Liberia provide for a 48-hour week, yet Liberians are required to put in up to 84 hours a week without payment of overtime. They are made to work on Sundays and holidays without any extra consideration. Americans and other foreigners employed receive overtime pay regularly in addition to their fabulous pay.

Medical Attention

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Strike Of Liberian Port Workers Ends

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-3-46

WASHINGTON — Liberian construction workers are back at work building a port for the Liberian government, the State Department announced here last week, but refused to state who won the strike.

Work on the port being built by the Raymond Pile Concrete Co. of New York was halted several weeks ago when the workers struck for automatic pay raises, leave with pay, non-occupational illness compensation and demanded the dismissal of a Liberian labor relations officer employed by the firm.

A settlement satisfactory to both parties was reached the State Department said.

21k 1946

Louisiania

NEGRO, WHITE STRIKERS DEFY COPS' TERROR IN LA.

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Fri 7-19-46

BATON ROUGE, La., July 18.—Despite police intimidation and anti-Negro threats, Negro and white picketing of the struck Kalbach-Burckett Co., was continued yesterday.

The strike was called July 9 when negotiations between the company and the CIO Warehousemen's Union broke down. The company coupled its refusal to lift hourly wages from 50-55 cents to 70-75 cents with the firing of a union member for "smoking during working hours."

Recently a union shop steward was fired for the same reason. Negroes are not allowed to smoke during company hours at the firm's feed mill.

One policeman displayed a machine gun on company property during the first day of the strike and police threatened to break up the picket line when union men spoke to passersby. C. J. Meske, an ILWU international representative was ordered into a police car and taken to headquarters, but no charges were filed against him.

Police have been urging the strikers to accept the company's offer of a five-cent hourly increase, and have said, **"We don't allow n----rs to strike here."** They said they would **"get tougher"** if the strike went on.

Fri 7-19-46

Baton Rouge Chief of Police Parker questioned one worker about "communism" and called him a **"n----r-lover,"** the union reported.

A Negro photographer, S. S. Brown, was arrested while taking pictures of the picket line and attempts to locate him have thus

Negro Laundry Workers Strike

The Black Dispatch

21k

ALEXANDRIA, La. — (ANP) —Disgusted over deplorably low pay and the refusal of their firm to enter into contract negotiations with representatives of the AFL organizing campaign, fully a hundred colored workers of the Alexandria Steam Laundry Inc., walked off their jobs in bitter protest recently, and several days later, employes of Blackman's laundry, owned by the mayor of this city, followed suit in a "sympathetic walkout."

In each case, the walkout action was precipitated by the unexpected firing of key workers who favored unionization. Three such workers had been dismissed from their jobs at Alexandria Steam laundry, which employs about 100 Negroes, and several had been fired at Blackman's for displaying "Join the AFL" buttons. Both walkouts were unathorized by the AFL, but they reflect the total dissatisfaction of the workers with their conditions.

Sat, 12-21-46

A series of conferences between AFL officials and the management of both companies failed to bring about union recognition. The Alexandria Steam laundry attempted to break the strike by hiring "scab" workers, some of whom worked 48 hours for the small sum of $12.

The AFL southern organizing campaign for Louisiana, with headquarters in New Orleans, has concentrated especially on Alexandria where, it is claimed, workers generally receive some of the lowest wages paid anywhere in either the state or the south as a whole.

The two women shown in this picket line are labor studies fellows at Harvard. Daily, before classes, they join 110 other strikers picketing the Vanta Knitting Mills at nearby Newton, Mass. The women, ex-WACs and members of the ILGWU, are Bernice Taylor of Easton, Pa., and in front, Mabel Durham of Kingston, N. Y.

1-16-46 Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Vets Join GM Strikers: Discharged servicemen, members of the CIO Auto Workers and employed at General Motors until the strike, don uniforms and hold their own picketing parade around the GM building in Detroit. Vets are solid behind the union in its demand for wage increases. GM has refused to accept Truman's fact-finding board's proposal for a 19½ cent increase.

350 Negro, White Flint Vets Parade to Aid of GM Strikers

Daily Worker

Special to the Daily Worker

FLINT, Mich., Jan. 15.—Marching in a driving wind and sleet, about 350 vets paraded through the business district here last weekend in support of the GM strikers' wage demands. The parade followed an afternoon rally at which they unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the struggle of organized labor.

New York, N.Y.

Negro veterans marched with their white buddies in a demonstration of unity. A color guard bearing American flags flanked by the banners of the four GM locals, the CIO Band in red and blue uniforms, and the Flint Scottish Pipe Band, led the parade. 1-16-46

Earlier, in the auditorium of the CIO Buildin, 600 vets, heard Joe Velosky, director of the UAW-CIO Veterans Department, discuss the auto union's program for assistance to returned veterans. Joe Rivers, commander of the Genesee County Council of War Veterans, was on hand to explain the GI Bill of Rights and to answer questions pertaining to the bill.

In addition to supporting the wage fight, the vets passed a resolution urging President Truman to bring high point veterans home from overseas.

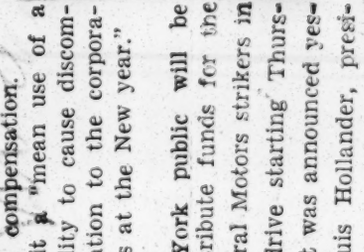
Velosky charged that the GI Bill of Rights is inadequate and that most of the veterans coming home find that they are not eligible to participate in the benefits offered He said that labor was out to change the bill to allow for greater benefits, and that a UAW veterans meeting in Detroit recently had adopted a specific program which they would present to the Michigan State Legislature for action.

Gilbert Rose, chairman of the Flint Veterans Committee of the UAW, presided over the meeting

Mrs. FDR, Other Notables A'd GM Strikers

MRS. ROOSEVELT HENRY MORGENTHAU

RABBI WISE WALTER WHITE



ARCHBISHOP SHEIL BISHOP OXNAM

By WILLIAM ALLAN

DETROIT, Jan. 3.—A National Citizens Committee to raise funds for the families of striking General Motors Workers was announced here yesterday. Heading the list of prominent Americans on the committee were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry J. Morgenthau, and Archbishop Bernard J. Sheil, of Chicago.

The committee, which will have its national headquarters in New York City, announced that its prime purpose is to raise money for strike relief.

"These families are in need of aid," a public statement issued by the newly formed Citizens Committee declared. "It is now apparent that the strike will not be settled quickly. No general system of relief is available, nor has the union treasury the money to pay strike benefits to the 200,000 workers involved. To support their families these men have been living on savings accounts accumulated during the war, and cashing in their war bonds."

PROMINENT MEMBERS

Others among the sponsoring group for the Citizens Committee include Leon Henderson, former OPA Administrator; Right Rever-end William Scarlett, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America; Lt. Col. Evans Carlson, famed leader of the U. S. Marines.

Russell Davenport, author; Dr. Reinbold Neibur of the Union Theological Seminary of New York; Walter White, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Rabbi Stephen S. Wise; and the Right Rev. Edward Parsons, Episcopal Bishop of California.

Elizabeth Janeway, New York novelist, will serve as secretary of the Committee; and Llewellyn Ross, businessman, Conn.

Meanwhile, United Automobile Workers president R. J. Thomas announced an attempt of General Motors to disqualify 3,000 workers in the Fisher and Buick plants at Flint from drawing unemployment compensation benefits.

Thomas pointed out that these 3,000 workers were not on strike, but were on unemployment compensation because they had been laid off before the General Motors Strike. Their loss of employment was due not to a labor dispute, Thomas asserted, but to a shortage of materials—glass at the Fisher plant and automobile frames at the Buick.

About Christmas time the corporation notified the Michigan Unemployment Commission that the materials shortages explanation of the CIO appeal for Thomas said, and that public support. "But the company could be recalled if must reckon with the common- no strike, and that sense of the people. The public should be denied knows that the GM workers are compensation. waging no selfish fight."

The New York public will be asked to contribute funds for the relief of General Motors strikers in a three-day drive starting Thursday, it was announced yesterday by Louis Hollander, president of the New York State Industrial Union Council and treasurer of the Joint CIO Strike Support Committee of Greater New York.

The strike support committee hopes to have 10,000 volunteer solicitors in all five boroughs during the collection drive, he said, which will include members of women's organizations and community groups, as well as members of the CIO and AFL. The American Labor Party will also supply a large corps of volunteers, Hollander added.

"The General Motors Corp. can walk out on collective bargaining, and it can have nothing to do with fact-finding board the President's fact-

21k 1946

Missouri

Two Men Hurt in St. Louis Strike

Couple in Union

New York

ST. LOUIS. (ANP)—A non-striking employe of the picketed St. Louis Independent Packing Co., angered by efforts to keep him from crossing a picket line, shot and seriously wounded a picket here last Wednesday. 2-2-46

The assailant, Walter Curry, employed in the sheep-slaughtering department for 21 years, fired one shot into a group of pickets when "they started after me." He was immediately arrested and his victim, Morris McMurty, janitor, who had walked out with hundreds of other workers in sympathy with the joint effort of the CIO and AFL to organize the plant, was taken to Homer G. Phillips hospital. He was shot in the thigh.

In a second disorder on the same day at the Independent plant, Wilfred Armstead, 36, was assaulted by Alfred Bell, white butcher. When Armstead walked out of Independent, because he favored the proposals ogered employes by the CIO and AFL, the non-striking white employe plunged his butcher knife into Armstead's stomach. Bell was arrested and booked as a suspect of peace disturbance. 2-2-46

Meanwhile picketing at the Independent and the Armour and Swift plants continues.

COAT FOR STRIKER Muriel Gaines, singer at the Ruban Bleu, gives Mrs. Eleanora Hanbacher, Westinghouse striker from Bloomfield, N. J., a skunk fur coat. The coat was donated to the National Committee to Aid Strikers' Families by a member of the American Labor Party at a luncheon here Friday. Mon 2-18-46

Broadway Stars Play For UE in Bloomfield

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., Feb. 17.—CIO strikers from General Electric and Westinghouse enjoyed a Broadway show in their own headquarters as part of strike activity. Among stars who entertained here were David Burns of **Billion Dollar Baby**, Lloyd Gough and Gordon Heath of **Deep Are the Roots**, Diana Adrian of **Are You With It**, Robert Penn, formerly of the cast of **Oklahoma** and Elliott Sullivan of **Winged Victory**. They put on a show called **Union Follies**.

Fifth of Jersey Strikers on Picket Lines Colored

Afro-American 2-2-46
Baltimore, Md.

NEWARK — Strike conditions in New Jersey, involving more than 35,000 workers in steel, meat, construction industries and electrical equipment plants, continued along steady lines in some instances and with threats of abrupt changes in others.

But along all picket lines thrown around the struck plants colored workers, which union officials placed at approximately 18% of the total, continued their all-out support for labor's demands.

Veteran Arrested, Freed

Highlighting the week's activities was the arrest of Charles Rosie of 48½ High St., a World War II veteran, who was snatched off a Westinghouse meter plant picket line allegedly for wearing a Naval uniform.

He was taken into custody Saturday by three Naval shore patrolmen and carried to New York City where he was stripped of his discharge papers, placed in a cell and held for two and a half hours. No charges were preferred and he was freed.

Rosie served in the Navy as a steward's mate, first class, and saw service in the European Theater, Leyte, Luzon and other Pacific area. He received a medical discharge on June 8, 1945.

Protest Follows

Following the arrest, Lt. Comdr. Norton Wood, Third Naval District public officer, announced that Navy personnel must not join any picket line or support any strike, and that discharged service men are not to wear Navy uniforms or parts of them.

CHARLES ROSIE,

of 48½ High St., Newark, an ex-service man, who is a member of Local 426, United Electrical Workers, CIO, was arrested because he walked a picket line while wearing part of a Naval uniform. Union officials charge discrimination because two white pickets wearing uniforms were unmolested. Protests have been sent to the Navy Department and President Truman.

James McLeish, president of District 4, United Electrical Workers of America, CIO, at a meet- Rosie as a violation of the ex-service man's civil rights.

White Vets Not Disturbed

McLeish branded the order discriminatory toward service men, ing Tuesday in New York City, with Capt. Berry, public relations officer, and Capt. Adams, disciplinary officer of the Naval district, protested the arrest of and also charged that Rosie was arrested because of his race. He pointed out that two white ex-service men on the picket line were not bothered.

"The Navy has failed to justify its seizure of Rosie, and promises to 'investigate' do not dispose of the charge," he said.

Demands for a probe of the incident have already been sent to War Secretary Patterson and Navy Secretary Forrestal.

Besides McLeish and Rosie, Charles Kaufman of the New York City UE district was present at the meeting.

17,000 Steel Workers Hit

In the steel strike, which involves 750,000 throughout the nation, 17,000 Jersey workers are involved, including 13,000 members of the United Steel Workers' Union, CIO.

Colored workers dominate in the foundry plants, according to union officials, and constitute approximately 10% of the over-all union membership.

They compose a large portion of the 2,700 in the Worthington Pump & Machinery plant in Harrison, and the 450 in Sack-Barlow foundry, Newark.

Other steel plants in the State include: 2-2-46

Harrison—Crucible steel, 1000; Driver-Harris, 650; Aluminum Co-operation, Edgewater, 2,500;

Newark—Worthington-Gamon Meter Co., 300; Behringer Metal, 50; Schnefel Brothers, 300; American Cable, 175;

Jersey City—Crucible Steel, 500; and several other smaller plants throughout the State.

Construction Situation

The 11-day-old strike in the construction industry in Essex County, involving 1500 members of the International Hod Carriers' Building and Common Laborers' Union is due for an airing today (Thursday) when representatives of the Associated Contractors meet with union delegates at 56 19th St.

The association has admitted that the workers are entitled a wage increase, and possibly will attempt negotiations. The unions are asking a $2.50 increase, a 7-hour day and double pay for overtime.

New York

21k 1946

PLEADING THE CASE FOR THE CITY'S TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION

New York Times, N.Y. N.Y. Monday

3-25-46

Joseph Curran (center), president of the National Maritime Union, with members of the Citizens Committee appointed yesterday to meet with Mayor O'Dwyer to discuss the threatened strike.

Sat. 3-16-46

21K

N.Y.

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Lucky Strike Strikers: **They'll tell New Yorkers issues in the country's oldest strike at American Tobacco Co., entering its sixth month today. Left to right: Helen Rogalski of Philadelphia; Caferino A. Lugo, of New York, and Irene Reid, of Charleston. Miss Rogalski and Miss Reid are strikers, part of 2,500 CIO workers fighting for a wage increase, a 65-cent hourly minimum and no discrimination clause. Lugo, 57, a grandfather, is a fellow member of the Food & Tobacco Workers who as a supporter of the strike has been picketing company national offices at 111 Fifth Ave. daily rain or shine. Groups can arrange to hear their story by contacting Mrs. Oppenheimer at the City CIO, 1133 Broadway.**

Guild Strike Shuts Down Amsterdam News

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—Harlem's Amsterdam News halted publication for this week as 50 employes struck charging the management with a campaign to crack the union.

Strike action against the 36-year-old journal continued after six months of negotiations bogged down between co-owners Dr. C. P. Howell, Dr. P. M. H. Savory and the CIO American Newspaper Guild.

Heavily supported by Negro civic, labor and religious groups, the Amsterdam News workers staged a two-hour rally before the paper's office Saturday and listed the reasons for their strike action.

List Grievances

Guild charges against the Amsterdam News management included intimidation of workers, reduction of employes' pay, violation of contractual agreement, dismissal of workers without just cause, set-up of "dummy companies" to avoid unionization and disregarding of previous experiences when hiring workers.

The strike was one of the first strikes by Negro workers against unfair labor practices imposed by Negro business leaders.

The second strike in the history of the paper, bought by its present owners when a strike in 1935 over union organizing forced its publisher to sell, is being bitterly opposed by the Powell-Savory corporation.

Sat 3-23-46

"Dummy Companies"

"The situation at the Amsterdam News became intolerable after the employes tried for six months to nullify the guild contract," charged John F. Ryan, executive secretary of the Newspaper Guild.

"Every cheap trick was pulled by the Amsterdam News management even to setting up dummy companies in order to hire non-union labor to steal back from the workers the gains they made under the Guild contract," he said.

Blast at the paper's publishers also came from Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, who stated: "The fight of the Amsterdam News employes for better conditions and union recognition is a fight which must enlist the support of every Negro."

While the paper's publishers advertised heavily in New York dailies against the strike which they called "unwise," the Representative Assembly of the New York Newspaper Guild, which includes workers among all New York papers, voted unanimously to throw its full weight behind the strike.

Vet Heads Committee

Touch-off of the strike centered around the replacement of Constance Curtis, society editor, with William Chase, a returned war vet.

In a circular letter mailed to subscribers, P. C. Payne, circulation manager of the paper contended:

"The stoppage was set off because we gave a veteran, Bill Chase, his old job of society editor. Many readers have been delighted, but the girl who was displaced does not want to give up the job although the GI Bill of Rights says that 'Bill' must get his old job back."

However, Chase, a columnist, now heads the unit's strike committee which has demanded the reinstatement of Curtis together with Gladys McDonald, formerly librarian of the paper.

Maria Clunie, chairman of the Amsterdam News unit of the Guild, revealed that major complaints of the Guild were caused by management's attempt to nullify the CIO-ANG contract.

Violates Contract

Unit members charged that during the past few years, the Amsterdam News management has established a series of subsidiary businesses, the work of which is directly related to the publishing of the paper, but the workers involved are completely without a union contract.

Tom Murphy, ANG organizer, said that workers in the Amsterdam News dummy companies were eligible for Guild membership and two had joined at a strike meeting.

Publisher On Vacation

Alger L. Adams, assistant to the president of the Powell-Savory Company, admitted the issues were over "experience ratings, sick leave policy interpretations and relationship between the various corporations housed within the 2340 8th ave. building." These are the "insurance company, 2340 8th Ave. Building Corporation, Rapid News Studio, Rapid Reproduction Engraving Company and the Personal Finance Company."

Dr. Powell, the paper's publisher, is now vacationing in Nassau, Bahamas. His associate publisher, Dr. Savory, is in New York and attended the last meeting between the Guild and the management. It was a six-hour session.

Present action is the first strike at the paper since October, 1935, when eight regular members of the editorial department were locked out after a three-months' attempt to secure union recognition. The strike lasted 11 weeks and attracted nationwide attention. It was the first time in the history of the labor movement that a Negro employe group had struck against Negro management.

The paper was forced into bankruptcy during the last days of that strike and was then purchased by Powell and Savory early in 1936. The Amsterdam News rates as one of the four largest Negro papers.

Lundy Hunts Scabs To Break Strike

Nicholas Place, had 25 years in the tem" where food returned by custo- waiting trade with over six years mers was deducted from a waiter's at Lundy's. Cheltenham emphati- pay.

cally declared that the restaurant's working conditions were the worst he had ever seen.

Some of the grievances described by Cheltenham were: the lack of sea food for waiters; so-called Bay was vainly trying to recruit a raft, and once "sanitary facilities" which provided scabs yesterday to break the picket- one washbowl with no soap for 200 ing of 150 locked-out members of employees; and the "penalty sys- Local 325, Hotel and Restaurant

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Lundy's Line Is Solid

White Waiter, Negro Pickets United at Beach Eatery

Though the union members fighting the lockout at Lundy's are overwhelmingly Negro with the picketing directed by Oscar Green, Negro strike chairman, the white workers are doing their full share in the fight.

Richard A. Montgomery, 2310 7th Ave., condemned Lundy working his turn at picketing. "The worst

Montgomery is a veteran of both World Wars, having served in the merchant marine in World War II.

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Workers Union. Most of the union members are Negroes.

Local President Harry Dalles reported that the restaurant's efforts to recruit scabs in Harlem was a complete fizzle. At the same time both the public and labor were giving the pickets close cooperation. Teamsters Union drivers refused to pass the picket lines.

The union is filing with the State Labor Relations Board, charging open discrimination in the firing of 64 workers for union activity.

Negro WU Strikers Doing Bang-Up Picket Job

By EUGENE GORDON

There are about 400 Negro employes of Western Union in Greater New York, a strike leader at 5 Beekman St. said yesterday, "and they are supporting the strike 100 percent."

We talked with Mrs. Jenkins, during a picket line stretch. She lives at 110 W. 144th St., and has been working for four years as a clerk in WU's traffic department, where there are four other Negro girls. She feels that none of them would be there if it hadn't been for the union.

"The CIO-ACA is a good union for any colored person to be in," she said emphatically.

They prove it, she said, by cooperating in every possible way to help win this strike.

That is what they say at strike headquarters, too. Joe Kehoe, director of organization for ACA, and Larry Kammett, publicity, agree that the Negroes have been performing "all sorts of picket duty" and volunteering for the hardest work.

"One gang shows up every night—two women and four men—and picket from midnight to 3 a.m., no matter how cold it is," Kehoe said.

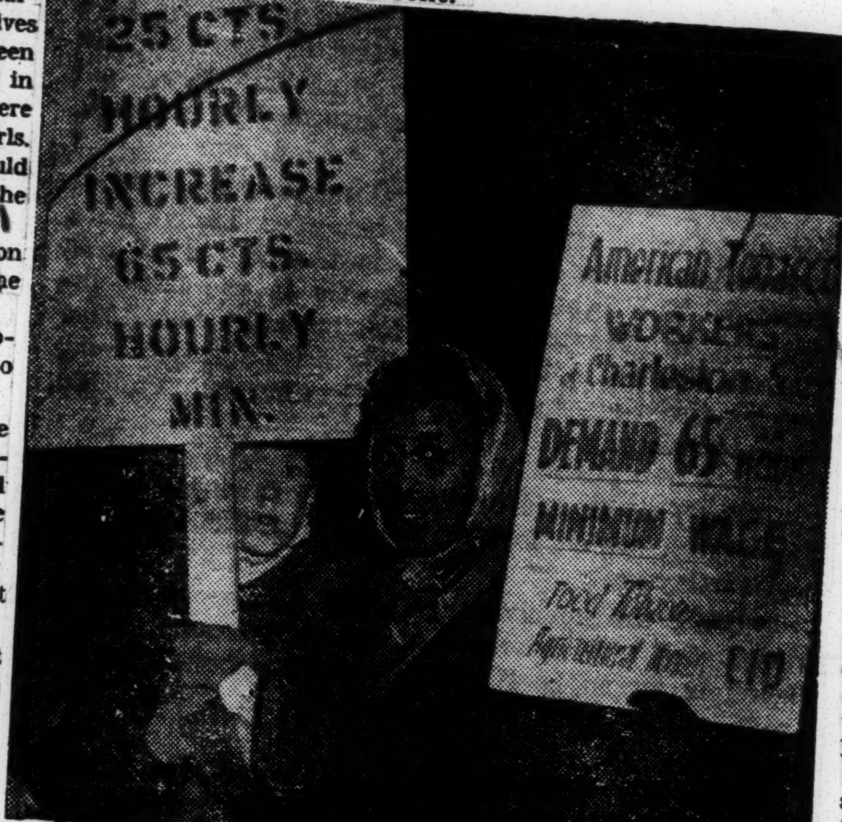
"Another comes on at 6," Kammett added, "which is another tough stretch in the kind of weather we've been having lately."

Stage for Action has presented Canada Lee, Kenneth Spencer, Josh White, Gordon Heath and other Negro artists to the strikers.

"The people are giving us wonderful support," Kehoe said.

"Some white people," said Mrs Jenkins, "have funny notions about colored people's loyalty at times like this. Well, now it's up to us to show 'em."

The pickets, huddled close together to keep their ears from freezing, shouted "Scab" at a man who slinked from the entrance of the WU building and scuttled around the corner. They sang at the tops of their lungs that they would not "be moved."



LUCKY STRIKE PICKETS—Women strikers from Philadelphia and Charleston picket the American Tobacco (Lucky Strike, Pall Mall) Company offices in New York. Strikers ask 65 cent hourly wage, no Negro discrimination.

Amsterdam News on Strike

Workers at the Amsterdam News, Harlem weekly, yesterday walked out after months of fruitless efforts to get the management to comply with the CIO Newspaper Guild contract. Approximately 50 workers are involved.

The Guild charged that the management had downgraded workers in violation of the agreement, refusing to accept agreed minimums based on length of experience, and had discharged employe Gladys McDonald for Guild activity. One employe, Constance Curtis, was told she had been fired and rehired on a job paying $17.50 less weekly, the Guild said.

DuBois in picket line

NEW YORK—When the American Communications association, CIO, picketed the main office of the Western Union company here last week, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois was among the more than 200 noted writers and artists who took part in the demonstration.

Dock Workers Strike Over Low Pay Scales

Attempt By New York Firm For Concessions Hit

MONROVIA— (ANP) — Negro soldiers stationed in Liberia have been placed on the alert and Monrovia declared off limits to all military personnel as the result of a crisis which has deveolped here in a strike by dock workers against the Raymond Concrete Pile company of New York, the Associated Negro Press is able to reveal respite rigid censorship which has been clamped down on all outgoing news. An American warship is also expected to arrive here shortly.

The Raymond company is building the American naval base here and recently flew Brazilian workers into Liberia to do construction work on the harbor, which is being financed by American lend lease funds.

PROTEST STRIKE

All of the Liberian dock workers for the Raymond company went out on strike on Dec. 16 in protest against a low wage scale of 45 cents a day, and against alleged pressure by the company on the government for a railroad and mining concession said to eventually embrace about 500,000 shares of Liberian territory. The strikers claim that the company's report that th[illegible] well paid was untrue that they [illegible] forced to work even on Sundays under the threat of being prosecuted for vagrancy. The exorbitant salaries of a minimum of $300 per month paid to imported Brazilians were also cited by the Liberians who claim to have done all of the unskilled and most of the semi-skilled and skilled work at the lowest possible wage. No Afro-Americans are at present employed by the company here, and passes are being denied beyond the gate of the extra territorial scene of operations of the company even to Liberian citizens not working for the company.

AGAINST CONCESSION

Former president Edwin Barclay has come out openly against the rail and ore concession, which he claims "would tend to make another Haiti or Peurto Rico out of Liberia and imperil the small landowner and the national sovereignty as well." Members of the Liberian Supreme court and some legislators have threatened to resign rather than sanction the rail and mine concession, which has has approved by President Tubman. An American warship is said to be on the way to Monrovia and American troops stationed at Roberts field have been put on the alert by Col. Graham, commander of the post. Fighting has raged in Monrovia since Sunday and a heavy censorship has blanketed outgoing news on the true state of affairs in the besieged country.

Guild, Harlem Paper Trade Accusations

The management of the New York *Amsterdam News*, which has been struck by 60 members of the Newspaper Guild of New York, CIO, for the last three days, yesterday issued a statement attacking the Guild for refusing to arbitrate the questions which have been at issue between the two parties for some time.

The management said that it had been quite willing to arbitrate, but that the union had refused.

In reply, Thomas Murphy, of the Guild said:

"Management took the position that most of the dozen issues were not arbitrable, and only became anxious to arbitrate when a strike was called."

The strike is continuing.

Newsmen's Strike

Halts Publication Of Amsterdam News

NEW YORK.—(ANP) — Publication of the Amsterdam News, this city's largest Negro-owned newspaper, was halted here Tuesday when 68 staff members and also members of the CIO Newspaper guild threw picket lines around the newspaper's Manhattan and Brooklyn offices to climax a six-month complaint of union-busting tactics designed to nullify the guild agreement of last October.

The strike committee, headed by columnist Bill Chase who recently returned to his old job after service in the army, included among its demands the immediate reinstatement of Gladys McDonald, discharged from her library job last November, and Constance Curtis, who replaced Chase as society editor while he was in the army.

The displacement of Miss Curtis by Chase brought about the strike, said Alger L. Adams, assistant to the editor and president of the Powell - Savory Publishing company. The job Miss Curtis had filled during Chase's absence is classified as a "desk" job in the Amsterdam News, he pointed out.

"When Chase returned, he was placed in his $60-a-week job on Feb. 1," he continued. "Miss Curtis, a guild official, was diplaced and given a new job as reporter at $42.50 on March 5. Under the terms of the labor contract with the Guild, she could have been dismissed.

Unsettled Issues

"Other old, unsettled issues were added to the Curtis case," he said "and were presented by the union for settlement. The union likewise refuse to arbitrate on these."

Adams disclosed the old issues as "dismissal of a librarian and discontinuance of the library, experience ratings, sick leave policy interpretations, relationship between the various corporations housed within the 2340 Eighth avenue building." They are the "insurance company, 2340 Eighth Avenue Building Corp., Rapid News studio, Paid Reproduction Engraving company, and Personal Finance company."

He said "the grievance committee of the local unit of the Newspaper Guild immediately protested that Miss Curtis had been treated unfairly." The reporter's job was the only job vacant. Under the guild contract, the salary for a reporter with two years experience is $42.50. Miss Curtis demanded to receive the $60 salary of a dsk head instead.

Arbitration Offer

"The management of the Amsterdam News offered to arbitrate the issue," he declared. "But the guild refused to let the matter be arbitrated. Several offers of arbitration were refused."

The strike brought about a stoppage of the paper's Tuesday and Friday editions in the metropolitan area, as striking workers charged no agreement with management could be reached after several weeks of negotiations. An ad placed by Dr. C. P. Powell and Dr. P. M. H. Savory, owners and publishers, in the New York Daily News said the issues revolved around only one worker, whose salary had been lowered by the return of a veteran.

The guild countered by listing 17 grievances held by them as contract violations, claiming the management had flatly refused to arbitrate at negotiation sessions the vast majority of them.

Intolerable

"The situation at the Amsterdam News became intolerable after the employers tried for six months to nullify the guild contract," charged John F. Ryan, executive president of the newspaper guild.

Met the Mayor Members of a CIO committee to aid the Transport Workers Union are shown leaving City Hall yesterday after an hour's conference with Mayor O'Dwyer. L. to r.: Saul Mills, Harry Reiche, Joseph Curran, Donelan Philips, and Esther Letz. (Story on Page 3.)

Photo by John Albert, PM

WU Pickets Relax as B'way Puts On Show for Strikers

With the Western Union strike entering its second week, the militant strikers took time off yesterday to relax in a bang-up show put on for them by the City CIO, their own CIO American Communications Association union and Stage For Action.

Approximately 5,000 men and women strikers, straight from the picket line or en route to it, crowded into Manhattan Center from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. yesterday afternoon. Picketing at all branch offices was halted temporarily and only a token volunteer line circled WU's 60 Hudson St. building.

STAGE STARS HELP

The show, packed with Broadway and Hollywood talent, was a great morale builder for the fellows and gals on the line. First, it was fun. Second, it showed that the entertainment field, mindful of its own battles against monopolies especially in Hollywood, is solid with labor's fight. Stage For Action a group of professional radio and stage stars, is now conducting "Picket Line Follies" daily at 4 p. m. at 60 Hudson St., and its sound truck will also be seen building up workers' morale when the electrical strike begins.

Joseph P. Selly, ACA president got a big hand when he told the workers' yesterday that the picket line will grow stronger, bigger and tighter as time goes on. He called the beginning of the strike an historic moment which marked the end of 40 years of company arrogance. The company's refusal to arbitrate is just "stupid," he said.

"We're out until we win our demands," he stated "whether it's three days, a week, a month or until hell freezes over." He said the union wouldn't go back until protection is also guaranteed for workers who went out even though they were not members of the union.

Selly pointed out that the company is shut down tight and that hardly any traffic is handled at 60 Hudson St. although Western Union claims that it's running at 20 percent efficiency. "Even if there's five percent that's a lot, and it will get worse," he said.

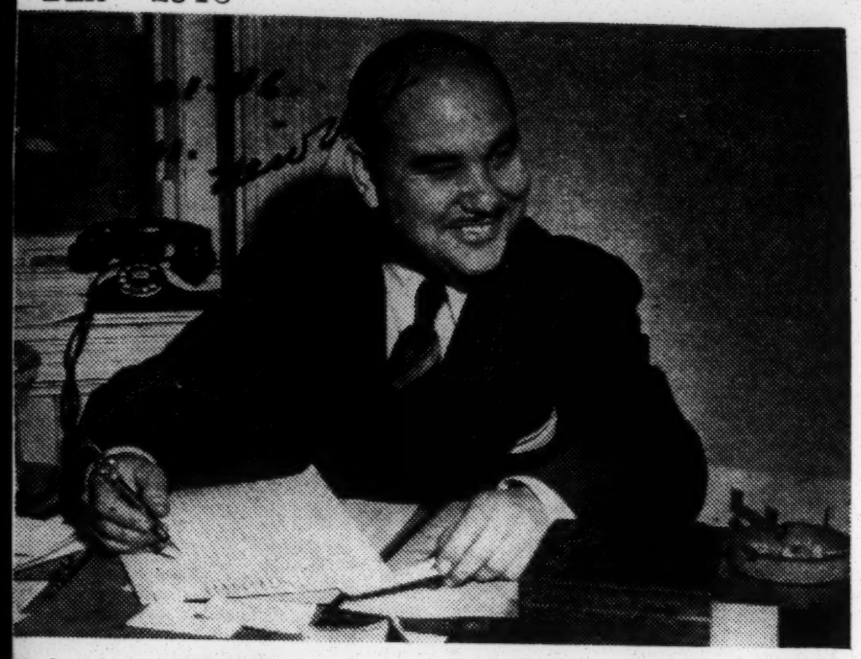
LAUDS LABOR SUPPORT

He said the company has $3,000,000 worth of merchandise in its warehouse and repair shop. This is unmovable because of the strike. He also expressed the union's gratitude for city labor support and noted that every CIO union in the city has had representatives on the ACA line.

Among Stage for Action members and other entertainers joining in yesterday's show were: Robert Penn, member of the original **Oklahoma** cast: Josh White, folk singer; Dolores Martin of Cafe Society Downtown; Bill Rollo of **Marinka**; Ruth Tarson, Chicago singer; Gordon Heath of **Deep Are The Roots**, who read a poem by Langston Hughes; Bert Freed of **Day Before Spring**; Helen March and David Pressman of **Dream Girl**; Earl Jones of **Strange Fruit**; Bernie West of Cafe Society Downtown; Howard DeSilva of the **Lost Weekend**; George Tyne of **A Walk in the Sun**; Anthony Ross of the **Glass Menagerie**, composers Lou Kleinman and Sam Morgenstern; pianist Murray Conwesser; Elliott Sullivan, who appeared in **Action in the North Atlantic**; and folk singers Tom Glazer and Tony Kraber.

Saul Mills, secretary-treasurer of the City CIO, told the workers that the CIO in New York is as "determined as the strikers to see this strike through to victory." He said that 1,000 veterans as a group will join the picket line.

Actor Howard da Silva said he had often heard that there are no heroes in these times. "I see a lot of them here," he said. "All guys on strike are heroes."



Salvatore Pischedda, rank and file union member, who runs the strikers' emergency relief department.

Ezell Gilbert
"We're Right"

LABOR

Strikers Skimp on Lot of Things —But Give All in Fight Against WU

Union Relief Setup Helps Workers Make Ends Meet

By Eleanor Moorhead

This morning, the 24th of the Western Union strike, several hundred strikers counted the change in their pockets — all the money they have in the world — and skimped on breakfast so they'd have carfare to get to the picket line.

Hundreds of others already have had to borrow eating and living money from friends and relatives. More than 300 of the 7000 strikers have had to apply to the union for financial aid. And nobody knows how many will be unable to meet first-of-the-month rent, gas, and electric bills. But they get to the picket line every day.

They get there because it's the one way they can show the company big shots publicly that they're still in there fighting for that raise —and poverty, debt or hunger won't drive them back to the job.

The hardest hit are the men and women who show up at the emergency relief office which the union, American Communications Assn., CIO, set up in its headquarters on the seventh floor of the old office building at 5 Beekman St., in the shadow of City Hall.

Here, in an office crowded with chairs and desks, the relief committee puts in a gruelling 8-hour day for free, handling about 75 persons daily whose wants range from milk for the baby and rent for the landlord to medical care for "picket feet."

The staff includes Salvatore Pischedda, an assistant chief inspector in WU's Jersey City repair shop, and his three assistants, Paul Unrath, an equipment worker, and Mrs. Lillian Lagos and Miss Jean Rosevich, teleprinter operators.

This is their first plunge into socio-economic problems, but they could teach the experts a thing or two.

"We all work for the same company, and we know what our wages and problems are," said Pischedda, a little swarthy guy with a liquid voice and a grin that shows in his eyes, too.

"We're desperately in need of money and food, but the people of New York have been wonderful," says Pischedda. More than 2000 food packages have been distributed, all donated. In addition, free services have been offered to the strikers by 42 doctors, 23 dentists, five optometrists, two eye specialists, eight druggists, one surgeon, four attorneys, two pediatrists, and 25 podiatrists. Hundreds of strikers, who have developed foot trouble on the picket line, are keeping the podiatrists busy.

Pischedda estimates that 300 workers have been directed to agencies which will give them financial aid. This figure does not include the hundreds who need only a quarter or half a buck carfare to get to the picket lines. This money comes out of ear-marked union funds, and the worker signs an IOU.

Here's a cross-section of one day's applicants:

Vincent Pizzo, 101-46 Nicholl Ave., Corona, L. I., came in looking for a part-time job to tide him over. Only 32, he has worked as a route clerk for WU for 17 years, his take-home pay averages $32 a week. On this he has supported his wife and 3-year-old son and 10-months-old daughter.

"You might as well strike and starve as work and starve," he said. "I not only haven't any cash in the bank, I wasn't even able to buy bonds. My landlord is letting next month's rent go, if the strike lasts that long, and we've got relatives who are willing to help us out. I'd just like to ask the company officials one question: Do they know they're preventing their own people from buying things for their kids?"

Harry Sisenwein, 713 3d Ave., Manhattan, is a messenger who averaged $15 to $18 a week. He is single and 60. He said:

"Take me, for instance. I had $30 when the strike began, and it's all gone now. Had to borrow my $4 room rent last week, and I got a food package here today. It's a hell of a feeling not to have a cent in your pocket. What makes it worse is that I haven't got my check from the company for the last week I worked. They said they sent it to my old address, but it shouldn't take three weeks to get it back and send it to me."

Miss Ezell Gilbert, of 503 W. 158th St., is 19 and the sole support of her mother and grandmother. This was the second time she had to get a food package. A route aide, she made between $22 and $24 a week.

"I met this month's bills out of my savings, but when Feb. 1 comes I don't know what I'll do. It's bad when your whole family depends on you, but as I see it, it's our duty to stick out this strike because we're right. We need a decent wage."

Winston-Salem

Courier

Bus Drivers Gettysburg, Pa. Win Pay Raise

WINSTON - SALEM, N. C. — —(ANP)—Fifty-eight drivers for the Negro-owned Safe Bus Company returned to work here last week after settlement of an eleven-day strike brought pay increase demands retroactive to Feb. 2 and recognition of the CIO Transport Workers Union as bargaining agent. The closed shop also was agreed upon. 7-16-46

The Rev. R. M. Pitts, minister, a voluntary arbitrator, said settlement of the strike solved transportation problems for thousands of Winston-Salem residents.

Tobacco Workers Aim For 30,000 In Southern Drive

Daily Worker
New York, New York

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Aug. 2.—Tobacco workers of North Carolina, traditionally one of the South's poorest paid, are on the move as never before in history. From a powerful beachhead established by the Food, Tobacco and Allied Workers, the CIO southern organizing drive is sweeping through the tobacco belt in a great campaign that is aimed at bringing 30,000 tobacco workers into the CIO. Saturday

New fires of enthusiasm swept through the state's tobacco workers last week when the news spread of the great victory won by Local 22 FTA over the powerful R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. here.

The Winston-Salem maker of Camel cigarettes was forced to give the highest wages ever paid to tobacco workers in the South. The new contract gave an average 12 cents an hour raise and a 65-cent minimum to about 9,000 workers.

For seasonal leaf workers it wiped out the hated seasonal exemption. This exemption forced them to work 14 weeks with no overtime until 56 hours a week had been worked. Under the new contract overtime starts after a 40-hour week from the season's opening. 8-3-46

An immediate counter-attack has been launched by the tobacco bosses. Workers in two leaf houses in Winston-Salem, employing during the season almost 1,000, have been forced out on strike. Both Piedmont and Winston Leaf Houses have refused to offer their workers more than a few cents wage raise and have been stubborn in the face of other demands. 8-3-46

Both of these plants employ all Negro workers, most of them women. The strikes are 100 percent and the militant picket lines have all Winston-Salem talking. All day long the workers march to the powerful singing of union songs and the Negro spirituals which were born in the Negro people's struggles for liberation. Saturday

Each day at noon the picket lines are swollen to mass proportion by Reynold's workers who have sworn their solidarity with the leaf house workers, who are also a part of Local 22.

Union leaders are convinced that the tobacco bosses are following a strategy of refusing the demands of the Winston-Salem workers to keep from giving further impetus to the organizing drive among the unorganized leaf house workers, almost all Negro, who make up practically all of the North Carolina tobacco workers still unorganized. Some of these leaf houses in Small North Carolina towns pay wages below 40 cents an hour and working conditions are little removed from peonage.

Fifteen organizers are pushing the campaign among the unorganized tobacco workers now, and a number of NLRB elections are expected soon.

ASSAULT COUNT AGAINST NEGRO PICKET FILED

WINSTON-SALEM, Oct. 23. (AP)—Another assault case, growing out of picketing activities at five strikebound Winston-Salem laundries, hit the records of city-county court here this morning. Three other assault cases which grew out of the strike have already been tried in the court.

Christine Davis, Negro, went to the city clerk of court's office this morning and swore out a warrant for the arrest of John Henry Brunson, Negro, charging him with assault on a woman. Details of the charge could not be learned at noon today. John Russell, organizer for the International Fur and Leather Workers (CIO) said shortly after noon that the union had the case under investigation, but he could release no statement at that time.

It was understood that the Davis woman was among a truckload of workers who arrived at the Camel City Laundry and Dry Cleaning company to report for work this morning. She alleges that Brunson reared up in the truck and struck her. It was not confirmed whether Brunson was a member of the picket line. He was placed under a $50 bond.

The flare-up was the only disturbance reported as pickets continued to march in front of the Camel City Laundry and Dry Cleaning company, Dunn Laundry, Sartin Dry Cleaning and Laundry company, Winston Steam Laundry and Dry Cleaners and Zinzendorf Laundry in an effort to gain recognition for the International Fur and Leather Workers (CIO).

company.

Intimidation Unsuccessful

The company reportedly slipped strike breakers through the company gates by riding them in with truck loads of materials during the strike. In every melee strikers are charged with "rioting" and are intimidated by cops—lest the unity and success of these local white and Negro workers spread to other areas.

CIO-FTA officials say the union has not considered accepting the starvation wages offered by the

Point of Order

Tobacco Strikers Face Cop Brutality

The Worker
New York, N.Y.
Sun. 9-15-46

By John Hudson Jones

Tobacco workers of Winston-Salem, N. C. are fighting to win a living wage of 65 cents an hour —fighting against union-busting tobacco bosses and billy-swinging cops.

All Negroes, mostly women, and members of Local 22, CIO Food, Tobacco, and Agricultural Workers, they need support and money to back their determination to win the strike against the Winston and Piedmont Leaf Houses.

★

THAT'S WHY Christine Gardner, business agent and leaf house organizer came to New York.

The workers struck eight weeks ago, after the tobacco bosses offered them raises of two to five cents an hour for light and heavy work. This would mean freezing at a 58-cent minimum.

But fired by the enthusiasm that has swept through the state's tobacco workers since the great victory of Local 22 over the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., the leaf house workers insisted on a "25 cents across the border" increase.

"They have thrown everything in the books at us," Miss Gardner said. "I think Reynolds is behind it all. The little houses do business with them, and they have been out to get the union ever since we won a contract from them."

Miss Gardner told how Police Chief Gold and his officers spend much time in the company offices, trying to get pickets to go back to work. "We had agreed to let in some company officials but they took advantage of us and slipped in scabs," she said.

Most of the state's tobacco workers are Negroes and still are unorganized. Many of the leaf houses pay as little as 40 cents an hour, and have working conditions not far removed from peonage. The tobacco bosses, biggest of which is Reynolds, have a tremendous profit source if they can maintain the low wages and

CHRISTINE GARDNER

operating expenses.

Miss Gardner told how police repeatedly attacked the pickets Aug. 23, when the company tried to move a bulldozer into the yard.

★

MANY OF THEM, mostly women, were injured and five were arrested. The news spread through the town like wild fire and several thousand Negroes and whites gathered. The police were forced to release the prisoners.

"We need money and support from the entire labor and progressive movement," Miss Gardner said. "Our strike is a key one. They're trying to stop CIO's Operation Dixie and we're a part of it. If we are stopped or slowed down, the whole Southern drive will suffer."

Financial aid should be sent to Local 22, Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers, 247½ No. Main Street, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Protests and demands that the strike be settled should be addressed to the Winston Leaf Tobacco House, and the Piedmont Leaf Tobacco House, both in Winston-Salem.

Interracial Unity Holds In N.C. Tobacco Strike

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-9.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—The South's fanatic resistance to any change in its low-wage pattern appeared in bold relief last week, when one white and two Negro CIO trade unionists were sentenced to the chain gang as an aftermath of the bitter Piedmont Tobacco Co's strike.

Evidencing no qualms over violence against Negro women and children and attempts to wreck Negro-white unity, police here have reportedly served as the Piedmont Company's storm troopers against the 1,550 workers—mostly Negro—of the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers Local 22.

White Defends Negro

Phil Koritz, white, international representative of the union, was arrested and sentenced to six months on the chain gang for defending a Negro striker who was being beaten by police. Mrs. Margaret DeGraffenreid, a Negro mother of four children and their sole support, was slapped and manhandled by police. She was sentenced to eight months and had

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Neighboring Whites Demonstrate

Much to the dismay of company officials, a salient feature of the

New York N.Y.

The Southern Upsurge: **Militant Negro tobacco workers sing their songs of struggle at the Piedmont Leaf Plant in Winston-Salem, N. C., where they are on strike. These pickets, members of the CIO, are fighting against peonage wage conditions. Noon-hour lines here and at the nearby Winston Leaf Plant are bolstered by hundreds of workers from the Reynolds tobacco plant.** 8-3-46 Sat.

Carolina Pickets Get Road Gang Terms

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Tri. 10-18-46

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., Oct. 17.—A CIO organizer today was sentenced to one year on the road gang, and two Negro workers, one a woman, to 10 and eight months, for "resisting" police who attacked a picketline here. The case grew out of the recent strike at Piedmont Leaf Company. Four were charged with resisting an officer. Three of the defendants were found guilty Wednesday afternoon and forced to stay in jail without bail until sentenced by Judge J. A. Rousseau this morning.

Phil Koritz, international representatives of the CIO Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Union, was sentenced to 12 months on the road; Cal Robetson Jones, 10 months, and Margaret Degraffenreid eight months.

An appeal challenging the North Carolina law which bars all non-property owners from jury service will be taken, it was announced.

The appeal will include the charge that Negro people are systematically excluded from jury service in Forsyth County.

An early motion to quash was denied by Judge Rousseau, but he uneasily ordered a special jury panel, handpicked to include 10 Negroes. The trial jury itself included five Negro men. The sheriff of Foryth County testified that not more than a dozen Negroes had sat on all types of juries in this county in the past 10 years.

Negro, White Workers Unite To Drive Out One Man Rule

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-17-46

THOMASVILLE, N. C.—"We'll die before we give up," one of 1,200 Negro and white striking workers in the Thomasville Chair Co., here said last week concerning the United Furniture Workers, (CIO) fight to rid this exploited little city of poverty and the "one-man rule" of Doak Finch, company president.

This statement by a nameless man in a virtually nameless community graphically sums up the determination of residents and workers to break the stranglehold Finch's eight plants have on the town. Negro and white pickets, both veteran and non-veteran are marching side by side on the picket lines. They do not smile as they pass, because each man and woman understands the grim nature of their struggle. Many of them remember the first strike in the plants in 1932, and the union busting tactics used by Finch and his henchmen.

Pickets Grim And Set

They are thoroughly disgusted because of the breakdown in wage negotiations after three months of wrangling. They have felt the pinch of hunger because of inadequate wages of 45 cents per hour, and their bodies have suffered from work speedups. There are no smiles or jokes as they pass each other, but knowing glances pass between them, Negro and white as reports circulate that Finch is recruiting hoodlums in nearby towns to break the strike at $2 an hour.

More than 25 per cent of the workers in Finch's eight plants are Negroes, and one-fourth of that number are women, but race has proved no barrier to unity here. On the picket line, two veterans marched side by side. Discussing the hard days ahead, one, a Negro said, "In the army we learned to stand a lot of hardship, and we learned about organization." The other, white, agreed with the grim nod of a combat soldier.

Finch's shadow falls over the whole community, and there is a great deal of support given the strike by townspeople and merchants. One farmer declared, "It's a crying dirty shame that workers have to come out in this burning sun to get more than 45 cents an hour. Doak Finch ought to be run out of town."

Although farmers and townspeople have contributed heavily to strike kitchens, William Gilbert, international representative, here to aid the workers declared that funds will soon be a serious problem.

Equality Aids CIO Unity In Southern Wage Fight

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-14-46

THOMASVILLE, N. C.—The equal treatment of Negro and white workers by the CIO United Furniture Workers of America in this Southern town paid off in terms of "solidarity" last week during the union's strike for 30 cents per hour pay increase.

In this small Southern town, years of union education plus the overwhelming need for a greater buying power to meet the constant rise in the cost of living, have pushed the issue of "white supremacy" far into the background.

At Local 286 headquarters, a Negro woman, Miss Johnnie Mae Joyner serves as clerk and receives all requests for food and looks after the insurance of white and Negro strikers, seeing to it that the policies are kept in force while the strikers are off the job.

Under the leadership of Rev. Ben Moore, white interdenominational evangelist, Negro and white CIO strikers assemble together—without "special" seating arrangements—and seek spiritual guidance in a rare practice of Christian faith.

Chief impediment to strike negotiations is the master-servant attitude of Doak Finch, company representative, to meet with union leaders. Negotiations began in April after the CIO had been certified as the bargaining agent for the workers.

When management refused to grant an increase, the strike was called. Management agreed to a 5 cents increase and nothing more. The union agreed to 25 cents. Management turned a deaf ear, and the union went back to its original demand.

Governor Cherry attempted to mediate the strike and called representatives from both sides to a conference. Management refused to discuss anything more than a 5 cents raise, and the conference balked at that point.

The plant owner's wealth is reputed to extend far past the known eight plants. He controls the banks and is considered the "boss" of this town of 12,000 with its 15 per cent Negro population.

The town "rulers" are reportedly disturbed over the fact around 840 whites and 360 Negroes are being taught the principles of democracy and are setting a "bad example" for the rest of the community. Thus, the immediate demands of the union have become secondary to fear that this precedent in Negro-white relations may spread and change the economic complection of this area—if not soften the 'solidness" of the whole South.

Women Tobacco Strikers Begin Ninth Bitter Week

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-28-46

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.—In an effort to win a seven cent hourly increase that would just meet the bare 65 cents per hour minimum living wage, a group of Negro women workers, members of Local 22, CIO Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers Union here, carried their determined strike into its ninth week.

The strike is the first one in the South involving large numbers of Negro women. Adamant in their refusal to allow wages to be frozen at a 58 cent minimum, the women withstood police bullying and other less violent techniques employed by the Winston and Piedmont Leaf Houses to break the strike.

Police Aid Companies

Miss Christine Gardner, business agent and leaf house organizer for the union, who is one of the keys in the strike set-up, declared that she believed the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, that has already yielded to the workers' demands, is supporting the two holdout companies.

"These little houses," she said "do business with Reynolds and are being used by them to smash the union."

She also charged that Police Chief Gold and members of the force are actively working with the companies in an effort to discourage pickets from continuing the strike.

Occasionally, she disclosed, there is resort to violence. On August 23, she reported, when the company endeavored to move a bulldozer through the picket line, police attacked the women pickets with clubs, arresting five and sending several others to hospitals and doctors for treatment.

Crisis In Offing

So violent was reaction of other workers to the police attack that the arrested pickets were released.

In spite of the stout loyalty of those in the union, Miss Gardner reported that large numbers of workers, mostly women, in the houses are still unorganized.

Failure of the union to win this strike, she said, would dim chances of getting others into the union. Efforts to force the companies to capitulate are being intensified because the strikers, underpaid, have exhausted their savings and are facing, after eight weeks, the grim prospect of hunger.

Inter-Race Unity Spurs Thomasville Chair Strike

Daily Worker Newspaper, N.Y.
By Special to the Daily Worker
Wed. 9-11-46

THOMASVILLE, N. C., Sept. 10.—The strike of 800 white and 400 Negro members of the CIO United Furniture Workers against the Thomasville Chair Co. moved into its eighth week here today, still demonstrating militant, inter-racial unity.

Doak Finch family's firm, the 1,200 strikers recently went through a hour wage scales at 8 plants of the arity of the workers, Negro and white; second, in the ald of the tear gas attack by local police.

Strikers are finding increasing pressure on merchants and landlords to toughen up on strikers in an attempt to raise 45-cent-an-hour wage scales at 8 plants of the Southern spirit; first, in the solid-

The battle has cemented a new virtual barony over commercial interests in this town of 10,000.

A National Labor Relations Board election had certified the union last April as bargaining agent, but the Company refused to bargain.

Strikers are receiving from local residents and merchants.

credit from the Finch family, which has exercised for many years a

The union asked 30-cent-an-hour increases to boost the 45-cent mark, but was refused. It modified its demands to 15 cents and was refused. Then a request for arbitration was turned down. The strike followed.

STARVATION PLAN

The firm, declares international representative Horace Small, seeks to starve the strikers out, as in 1932, when a spontaneous strike was unsuccessful.

Funds, he said, should be sent to Local 286, United Furniture Workers of America, CIO, Thomasville North Carolina. Canned food and staples may be sent care of the National Negro Congress, 307 Leno: Ave., New York

Striking Laundry Workers Jailed

The Afro American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO, on Nov. 16, charged that 500 striking laundry workers in Winston-Salem, N.C., are being deprived of their constitutional liberties by persecutions, arrests, excessive bail and outrageous prison sentences.

The strikers, most of whom are colored, are demanding an end to 27 and 30-cent-an-hour wages. They also ask sanitary working conditions and union recognition. They struck on Oct. 16, crippling laundry service in the city.

11 Jailed for Picketing

Of 11 strikers arrested on the picket lines last week, 6 were given sentences by Judge Leroy Sams ranging from three to 18 months on charges of alleged "assault." Original bail was set at $17,000. Hearings on the appeal opened Nov. 13. Sat. 11-30-46

Support for the strikers has been widespread in the Southern tobacco city. Local chapters of the National Negro Congress, NAACP, as well as churches and other civic bodies are supporting the strikers and protesting the infringement on their civil liberties.

Negro Laundry Strikers Jailed by Carolina Judge

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

Fri. 11-1-46

WINSTON-SALEM, Oct. 31.—Striking Negro laundry workers, who are picketing against starvation wages of $11 and $12 a week, felt the full force of the strikebreaking power of City Council Court here Wednesday. Judge Leroy W. Sams sentenced six workers to a total of 54 months on the road or in jail. He set bond for the six at a total of $17,000.

Charges against the workers was simple assault arising out of picket line disturbances and other efforts to stop scabs from entering laundries here. Previously fines of $10 had been assessed in similar charges. When defense attorney W. R. Dalton asked the judge if he didn't think the sentences were excessive, Judge Sams admitted it, but said: "We have to do something to teach them a lesson."

Judge Sams is the same judge who sentenced Phil Koritz, international representative of CIO Food Tobacco and Agricultural Union and four Negro workers to road and jail sentences during the strike of tobacco workers at the Piedmont Leaf Co. here.

John H. Bronson, who was sentenced to 12 months on the road, had support from four witnesses that he only asked scabs in the back of a laundry truck not to go in the plant. The driver, seeing that such a conversation was going on, drove off quickly, causing the back door to slam against a scab. Bronson was convicted of striking the scab.

Lida Mae Watkins, who was sentenced to 18 months in jail on four counts was faced with a scab, knife in hand, and struck the knife down with her picket stick. When she drew back, the stick hit a policeman also.

Others sentenced were: Essie King, six months; Celia Ann Purcell, six months; James Sturdivant, six months; Louvenia Wallace, six months. Martha Jones, who was charged with calling bad names at the wife of one laundry's manager, has not been sentenced yet.

DIXIE POLICE BEAT STRIKE SYMPATHIZERS IN CAROLINA

Defender Chicago, Ill.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Dixie police brutality was used on 3,000 sympathizers of striking Negro workers in the Piedmont Leaf Tobacco Co. here Saturday who were clubbed when they protested the entrance of a construction company truck into the strike-bound plant yards. Sat. 8-31-46

The sympathizers had augmented a picket line at the plant entrance.

When they refused to disperse, sharp street fighting followed. Although many were clubbed and beaten down, police stationed to guard the plant reported no serious injuries.

Phillip Koritz, director of United Tobacco Workers Local 22, whose 1,500 colored members have been on strike for a month, was jailed with five pickets.

However, the sympathizers and strikers re-formed the picket lines following the arrest of Koritz. Several hundred sympathetic Negro workers employed at the neighboring R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.'s plants refused to report for the 6 p.m. shift.

The Piedmont Leaf Tobacco Co. and the Winston Leaf Tobacco Co. have been on strike for over a month. Chief reason for the wage dispute is that the companies have flatly refused to negotiate with union representatives.

Average weekly wage for plant workers is $15, union spokesmen declared. In trying to negotiate with plant officials, the union has asked for a minimum wage of 65 cent an hour and the elimination of unfavorable working conditions at the plants.

Defender

Piedmont has offered 2½-cent-an-hour increase, Winston, 5 cent an hour. Chicago, Ill.

Union officials claim that refusal of Piedmont and Winston Leaf Tobacco companies to meet union demands is part of an attempt to discourage the CIO's drive to organize the South, particularly the underpaid tobacco workers.

Both plants have been picketed continuously since the strikes began. Sat. 8-31-46

Operators of the two plants declared several weeks ago that they would not yield to union demands even if the plants were forced to remain closed indefinitely.

Winston-Salem Citizens Support Laundry Strike

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 12-28-46

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. — In the largest conference of Negro organizations ever held here, representatives of 15,000 residents last week voted a five point program of full support of civil liberties and demands of 500 CIO laundry workers on strike in five plants since Oct. 16.

Announcement of the action was made by the International Fur and Leather Workers Union, which began organizing laundry workers last August.

The majority of the strikers, who are seeking an end to 27 cents and 30 cents hourly wages, are Negroes. Police pressure has been directed mainly toward them, and 13 have been arrested and sentenced to jail terms ranging from 30 days to 18 months.

Seek Community Aid

Conference adopted recommendations include full support of the strike; organization of special committees to plead with scabs not to enter struck plants; full support of struck plant boycotts; financial aid for strike relief and court cases; and mass meetings to enlist widest possible community support.

A committee of ministers, veterans and civic leaders was named to continue the conference work until the strike is won. Organizations represented at the conference included the NAACP, National Negro Congress, American Veterans committee, Civic Progressive League, Insurance Agents, Negro Chamber of Commerce, the Ministerial Alliance, representing 83 churches, the CIO Furniture Workers Union, Safe Bus Drivers, CIO Transport Workers Union, FTA-CIO, Barbers Association, Beauticians, Cotton club.

John Russel, organizer for the Fur and Leather Workers Union, retraced the efforts of the companies to keep the union out. He said they were taking orders from the Reynolds corporation, a huge tobacco firm which controls the city. The five struck plants are Camel City laundry, Zinzendorf laundry, Lunn laundry, Winston Steam laundry, and Sartins.

21k 1946 Ohio

A Rank and Filer Who Leads

Daily Worker New York 2-15-46

By George Morris

CLEVELAND.—Traveling through strike areas and talking to rank and filers you meet some wonderful people. It is in time of struggle that people have a chance to show how good they are.

When I arrived here I asked if there weren't some locals of the United Steelworkers of America which were not running the strike on a stay-at-home basis. I had already seen too many spots where the strike was still a holiday.

My inquiries led me to a store front on a hill looking down upon the Corrigan-McKinney plant of Republic Steel, strike headquarters of Local 1098, United Steelworkers of America. It took a little while before I was able to break through to Tommy Bodnovitch, the local's president. Strikers were after him from all directions with a hundred problems.

What impressed me is the way Bodnovitch met all comers and different types of approach with remarkable calmness, dispatch and a practical answer. He seemed to have a personal attachment to everyone who came to him. But what impressed me above all, is his resourcefulness.

Economics 2-15-46
Down to Earth

A Negro came to him to tell him about another Negro striker with five children who is in need of strike relief, but he feels backward or ashamed about asking for it.

"He really needs it, Brother Tommy?" said the Negro.

"He shouldn't be ashamed to ask for it," shot back Bodnovitch. "It's coming to him. The U. S. Treasury has millions in tax kickbacks for the corporation. They won't be ashamed to ask for it."

Arrangements were made to take the needy striker to welfare headquarters on the next day.

Bodnovitch deplored the very inactive atmosphere in other striking locals. But for his own local, he said, everything possible was being done to keep up the maximum of strikers active and alert. The problem that occupied most of his attention at the moment was the parade on the following day which the local initiated. That was the day upon which a tag day for CIO strike relief was to get under way. The City Council voted to permit it by a vote of 23 to 8 but Mayor Burke (although elected with CIO support) vetoed the ordinance. The parade aimed to reach the public for strike support and, incidentally, show up the mayor.

Touring the Picket Shacks 2-15-46

Bodnovitch invited me and a Negro striker to go along with him for a picket inspection tour. The local actually must look out for a stretch of a couple of miles around the plant. Seven picket shacks were stationed in front of as many gates. With from four to ten men to a shack in four six-hour tricks every 24 hours, some 200 strikers were involved daily. Each striker goes on duty once or twice weekly.

As we passed from shack to shack, Bodnovitch seemed to have something useful to say to every individual striker. One standing question was to ask: **"Has everybody here registered? Don't forget, our votes count, too. See what the mayor did to us. We mustn't forget him on election day."**

He found one striker who hadn't registered and promptly arranged for someone to see that registration takes place on the next day.

"Don't forget tomorrow, boys. Everybody out. Bring out the families and friends. It's got to be a real parade."

At one of the shacks there was no coal for the salamander.

"What, no coal? I'll see that you have some in half an hour."

The next shack was a big canvas tent, with three long benches in it. The boys had been holding lengthy "bull sessions" in it on every conceivable topic — mainly the strike. They seemed to be supplied with everything but a lamp. Bodnovitch discussed with them practical measures to rig up a lamp.

I noticed that Bodnovitch took particular pains to make the Negro strikers feel at home. At every shack there was at least one Negro. He'd shake the striker's hand, make sure he was properly introduced to the others, ask him how things were. What struck me most is the warmth that exists between Bodnovitch and his men. This is what makes him a rank and filer with authority.

I ran into many such dynamic personalities, men who sprouted directly out of the steel workers. They are popular with the workers because they combine intelligence, devotion and plain horse sense. 2-15-46

As I watched Tommy Bodnovitch carry on, I was thinking of many union officers who don't rub shoulders with their men, who operate from a desk with push buttons, who haven't gone through a test of struggle and who fill in with silly pomp where common sense and resourcefulness is lacking. I'd advise them to get around to see the Tommy Bodnovitches and find out how to become popular with the membership.

Publisher Assails NAACP Strike Aid

Chicago, Defender
Chicago, Ill.

CLEVELAND, O.—Objections to the use of National Association for Advancement of Colored People funds for strike purposes were voiced here last week by Eugene F. Cheeks, editor-publisher of the Cleveland Guide. A recent newspaper item disclosed that the NAACP had appropriated $500 to strikers.

"If this report is correct," his letter to the NAACP said, "I wish to express my objections to the appropriating of your funds to a purpose for which they were not intended. It has been my opinion that money collected by the NAACP is to be used exclusively for the elimination of discrimination." Sat 3-23-46

He gave two reason for his objection: "First, in most cases, it is the average-stock-holding citizens who supplies the maintenance of business establishments, and the laborer who propagates strikes, impedes the financial investments of those citizens. Secondly, those funds contributed to the NAACP should be used solely for the purpose for which they were intended."

900 Negro Workers In Pittsburgh Rally Hit Homestead Ban

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By ART SHIELDS 2-6-46

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 5.—Nine hundred Negro workers and their wives applauded attacks on the strikebreaking injunction against the Homestead steel strikers, at a rally here Sunday afternoon.

Leaders of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, the National Maritime Union and the United Steel Workers spoke at the Central Baptist Church.

Workers cried, "That's right," "That's right," as William Sentner, UE vice-president; Ferdinand C. Smith, NMU secretary; James Thomas, regional director of the steel union in the Homestead district and Democratic State Senator Elmer Holland called for unity in the struggle against the court's union busting writ, limiting pickets to a maximum of 10 workers spaced 10 feet apart.

J. & L. STRIKERS PRESENT

Many workers were present from the Jones & Laughlin mills on Pittsburgh's South Side, where a similar anti-picketing injunction is being threatened.

John Metcalf, president of the big UE local at the Westinghouse plant in East Pittsburgh, told the meeting that Democrats, Communists, Socialists and Republican workers must fight together against the union-wrecking move.

The Rev. Cornell Talley, the young pastor, who presided, asked everyone present who belonged to some other church to raise his or her hand. Then he said:

"I'm asking all of you to visit your pastor, your rabbi or your priest. Go to his home and look him in the eye; tell him you want your religion to be brought down from the sky and put into practice. Ask him to take a stand with you in this movement.

Thomas, the steel leader, said the injunction would make the Homestead workers fight harder than ever. 2-6-46

But victory will come, he said, because the Negro and the white people are standing firmly together.

Sentner castigated "the legal lynching move" now under way, and declared that "the strikers are not going to let the steel barons break their union, injunction or no injunction."

Ferdinand Smith, the NMU's Negro leader, was applauded as he said that the next morning would find him on the picket line of the Western Union strikers in New York.

Smith urged the workers present to sign the postcard being distributed asking Congressmen to kill the Case bill. He suggested that everyone present help to build a local Citizens Political Action Committee movement to fight the employers' "evil conspiracy" against labor.

Sen. Holland, who has been on many steel picket lines in this strike, emphasized the necessity of solidarity against the labor-busters.

The meeting was organized by the US union.

Steel Strike

Pittsburgh Courier

THOUSANDS OF NEGROES OUT

Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat 1-26-46

By RALPH E. KOGER

PITTSBURGH — Approximately 100,000 Negroes were among the 800,000 steel workers who went on strike in twenty-seven States Sunday midnight, it was reported by CIO Steelworkers Union Headquarters here this week.

That Negroes will play an important part in all phases of the strike was a foregone conclusion. Early Monday morning, out of ten pickets parading before the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation's main building on Fifth Avenue, downtown Pittsburgh, six were Negroes.

PLAN RADIO PROGRAM

James Thomas, director of Steelworkers in the Pittsburgh District, told The Courier Monday that members of the Homestead Carnegie-Illinois Branch of the union, Local 1397, had agreed to have women workers picket for a whole day, veterans picket another day, business and professional sympathizers another day, and Negro workers stage a picket demonstration on Saturday of this week.

Boyd Wilson, special representative of Philip Murray, said discussions were being held with the board of strategy to arrange radio programs to portray the sentiments of the various segments in the strike. One of these programs would deal with the Negro steelworker and would be centered around an outstanding Negro personality, not yet named, according to Wilson.

About 900 colored steelworkers are in plants not being struck, A SKF plants, where workers returned from a strike Dec. 21, are 600. One hundred work at ACF-Brill Motors, 62nd St. and Woodland Ave., where the company met the union's 18½ cents an hour increase demand.

Other plants which have paid the increase without being struck are:

The Philadelphia Pipe Bending Co., 4165 N. Fifth St., employing about 10 colored workers, and the Pottstown Pipe Products Co., J. Bishop and Co., Malvern, and the George W. Swift Machine Co., all of which employ colored workers.

At Crucible Steel, in Lansdowne, Pa., about 200 of the 300 workers are colored, as well as the officers of the plant union. Not scheduled to strike was the Wildman Manufacturing Co., in Norristown, Pa., which employs 50 colored people.

Union representatives do not believe that the accession of the small plants to the 18½ cents increase will have any effect on the larger plants under the operation of U.S. Steel and others.

At a joint meeting of members of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (CIO) and the United Steelworkers unions Monday night, it was decided that "hardship cases" among their striking members will be cared for out of a fund to be established shortly.

The two unions also agreed to protest the ineligibility of veterans on strike to collect unemployment compensation in a "reasonable" time after a strike begins. 9-2-46

At present, an unemployed person must wait six weeks before he receives the first payment of compensation, one week of "normal" waiting and five weeks of "penalty" (for striking) waiting.

Steelworking officials began arriving in Pittsburgh Wednesday for a wage-policy committee meeting, over which Philip Murray, CIO president, will preside. The announced purpose of the meeting is to prepare for a long strike.

5,000 Steel Workers Join in Demand for Higher Pay

Afro-American Baltimore, Md 2-2-46

PHILADELPHIA

The 5,000 colored members of the striking United Steelworkers in this area are supporting their union's demand for an 18½ cents per hour raise.

James H. Jones, national representative of the United Steelworkers' Union (CIO), said Tuesday 750,000 members of his union were on a nationwide strike.

In the Philadelphia area, an estimated 30,000 steelworkers are involved. This is about half of the strikers in union's District 7, comprised of Delaware, New Jersey and part of Pennsylvania.

Electric Tieup Still On

Meanwhile, strikes continue to tie up production at General Electric and Westinghouse plants in this area, with about 1000 of the 13,000 strikers colored.

Work had stopped completely at the six major meat packing plants in the city, which were struck last week. Colored workers are employed in these plants.

The oldest strike in Philadelphia, at the American Tobacco Co., 68th St. and Greenway Ave., went into its fourth month this week. The Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers' Union (CIO) struck last Oct. 15 after the company turned down a demand for a 65-cents an hour minimum wage and a 25-cents an hour increase.

About 300 of the 350 employees are colored. The union has asked a boycott of Lucky Strike and Pall Mall cigarettes, two of the company's products.

Ask Ministerial Support

Colored workers, Mr. Jones of the steelworkers, said, are taking their places in the picket lines and "doing a good job of it."

However, he pointed out, no support of labor has come from other colored people and their organizations. White ministers, he stated, have organized a committee to present labor's side and to give advice.

He urged colored ministers to interest themselves in the issue of the strike, since such a large number of colored people are involved.

Fiery Cross, Violence Fail To Break Starkey Strike Unity

The Defender Chicago, Ill Sat. 8-3-46

MORRISVILLE, Pa.—**The Starkey farm strike is a front line battle for democratic rights and economic justice in which the opposition has loaded the big guns of anti-labor violence with full charges of race hate.**

That it still continues is tribute to the bare-handed courage of 50 ragged and poor workers, survivors of the full arsenal of economic reprisal, race hate and malevolent violence.

They are a band of Negroes and whites who have withstood a barrage in which shootings, fiery crosses, wholesale scabbing and a spinach knife attack has picked off 200 of the original group of farm workers which struck eight weeks ago.

The strike started as an attempt by the workers, members of Local 56 of the Meat, Cannery and Farm

Workers, AFL, to get improvements in their wages and housing conditions.

Negro Miner Slain In Coal Strike Battle

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-30-46

PITTSBURGH — A 65-year-old Negro miner, slain in flaring violence less than 24 hours after the nation's soft coal miners walked off their jobs, was one of the first of two deaths following in rapid sequence the United Mine Workers' refusal to continue on the job without a contract.

The miner, Will Hunt, was slain at the Little Bobbie Pocahontas Coal Co. mine at Eureka Hollow, southeast of Welch, W. Va., along with Roosevelt Thomas, when they attempted to pull the foreman of the mine off a coal truck, according to a report by Deputy Sheriff Harry Cyphers. Cyphers said Sam Curry, 39, the foreman, had been taken into custody, but that no charges were lodged against him.

The Pocahontas mine is a very small truck unit, employing only 10 men. No further details were available of the disturbance, which brought first bloodshed in one of the most tense labor situations in the history of the country. Thousands more of the striking coal diggers are Negro, but no exact figures are available because segregated records are not kept by the union.

John L. Lewis, coal miners' chieftain, demanded some weeks ago that the government re-open negotiations on the contract under which the mines were originally seized from private owners. Secretary of Interior Krug denied that the contract necessarily provided for such re-opening. On the day appointed by Lewis, the miners walked off the job en masse, with anthracite miners threatening to follow.

Lewis has been cited for contempt by a federal court in Washington, D. C., and hearing has been set for early this week. The mine boss, who has remained in seclusion since the citation, faces imprisonment or a fine or both.

Meanwhile, many observers considered highly likely the possibility that heavy fines might be assessed against the union as long as the walkout persisted, with estimates running as high as $200,000 a day.

Cigar Workers, Bakers Join New Strike Front

The Worker

PHILADELPHIA. — Philadelphia had a new wage strike front last week. It stretched from Tobacco Road at Third and Spruce past the Gimbel Broadcasting Station, to Sellers machine shop at 16th and Hamilton. Also demanding wage increases were the AFL bakers. Across the river, CIO Food and Tobacco Workers charged Campbell Soup with contract violations and trying to break the union at the onset of the tomato-canning season by conniving with an AFL group.

Sunday 8-4-46

NEGRO AND WHITE PICKETS, members of the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers, showed pay slips with a take-home ranging from $20 to $25 weekly for making Habanello and Casa Grande cigars.

"How can you live on it?" we asked. "We can't," one woman answered. "That's why we're out here."

Jessica Rhine, union organizer, told us the strike was provoked when Frieder's Wilkes-Barre plant fired 19 vets. They were protesting a phony "job-training" program, that taught them no trade, but kept them on common laborer's work at 50 cents an hour.

New York

"The Superior Court has just sustained a two-year-old NLRB ruling against Frieder for anti-union activity in Wilkes-Barre. Strikers in both plants are now demanding: (1) Immediate recognition of the Wilkes-Barre union; (2) Reinstatement of all workers fired for union activity the past two years.

★ N. Y.

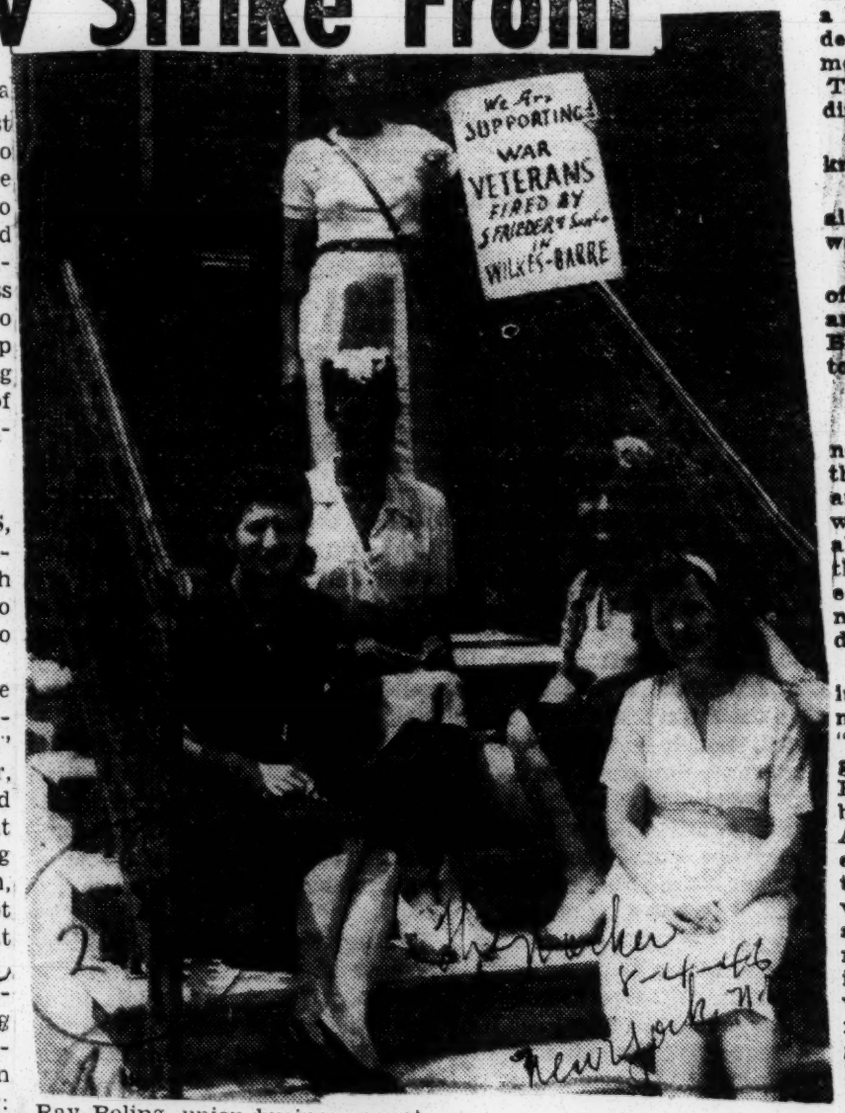
EDNA BARTON, of 2282 Ridge Ave., is a typical Frieder striker, many of whom are Negroes, and all of whom are marching together. "My husband served three years in the ETO. Now they've offered him $22.50 at his old job, which he can't afford to accept." Mrs. Barton, who has a young child to support, was bashful at first, as were most of the other women, to discuss her wages. The pay is so low at Frieders—$20 to $25 take-home.

★

BREAD COSTS MORE but pays workers less.

Bkn. 8-4-46

Bakery Workers Local 6, one of the most powerful AFL unions in the city, was asking all the big bread, cake and pie bakers in the area for a 30 cents an hour wage increase, a five-day week, and a night shift bonus.



Ray Boling, union business agent, said the average pay has been 84 cents an hour for men, 56 for women. He added that flour shortages and other developments have reduced take-home pay considerably, although bread prices have risen 18 percent and millers have gotten bonuses.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 8-10-46

I THINK YOU'D like to know about somethin' that happened in Pittsburgh last week. They got about 300 of our boys employed in the coke oven department of the Jones and Laughlin steel plant. You know how hot and dirty and gassy that work is. Our boys get in there and never seem to get out. Once or twice before they have kicked about the conditions under which they labor, how they butt their heads against a brick wall tryin' to rise above the coke oven or even to highest jobs in coke oven department. But, one thing company knows they are important. If they quit work, thousands of other workers in other departments have to lay down their tools.

Last week, coke oven boys sat right down, insisted as to how they was gonna do no more work until company did something about discrimnation in hirng. Daily newspapers got wind of fact that somethin' was goin' on out at plant. They called up Pittsburgh's mayor, David Lawrence, and said, 'Mr. Mayor, we heard there's some trouble out at J. & L. They say the colored boys out there are mad about that Georgia lynching and that they have quit work and are threatening to tear up the place. Looks like there may be a riot.'

The mayor was deeply and quickly impressed. He called up out at the plant 'cause he didn't want no riots. The guys laughed at him when he asked if they were goin' to riot on him like that. No, indeed. But they did have a little problem and they'd like to see him about it. So he invited them to come to his office. A little later a large committee of these grimy sons of toil showed up at the Mayor's office along with Charlie Washington, who is industrial relations secretary of the local Urban League. Charlie had worked with them before when Milo Manley was around town for FEPC.

Mr. Mayor began talking to them all nice like and they was just as nice as he, only they says, "Mr. Mayor, they ain't a lot of time to do a lot of nice talkin'. These folks out there have been givin' us a raw deal. There's two jobs, sort o' nice jobs, which belong in our department, but they've taken those jobs out and given them to white men. That's the way they're doin' all the time, givin' us the worst and dirtiest jobs."

"Why don't you say somethin' to them?' the Mayor wanted to know.

"Say somethin'!" they exploded. "We bin sayin' something, but we ain't go no results. The guys we talk to don't do nothin'. Now we wanna see top management."

So the Mayor called up the head offices of J. &. L. And he tells of how the men is in his office and wanna see somebody who can and will do something about their complaints. He gets a-hold of Earl Blank, personnel man for the whole works, and he tells the Mayor to send the men right over.

Then somethin' funny happens.

The men leave the Mayor's office and start for J. & L. offices, not far away. Just as they was about to enter the J. & L. building, they runs into a little ol' mousey sort o' man who says, "Hello, boys," and sort o' stands across them. They want to shove him out of the way, but he shows an inclination to talk. Charlie Washington, acting all dignified and sort 'o takin' charge, says, "Who are you?" The little ol' man says, "My name is Lewis, H. E. Lewis." Somethin' started racin' in Charlie's brain and before long he remembered that the name of the president of J. & L. is H. E. Lewis. "Are you the president?" Charlie asked. "None other," replied Mr. Lewis.

So he volunteered to show the gang up to Blank's office, and called in some others. He seemed to be very much concerned about the men's gripes. "We've been discriminated against," the men insisted. "That can't be, not in our company," demurred Mr. Lewis. "We ain't got no foremen," said the men. "Oh, no, that's not true, is it Mr. Blank?" Embarrassed, Mr. Blank admitted that it was true. Well, before they got through with Mr. Lewis, he had learned a whole lot. Another meeting was planned for the next day and this was attended by Boyd Wilson of the CIO's Committee To Abolish Discrimination. After they had done a lot o' talkin', Mr. Wilson was asked what he would do. He said he couldn't say anything until he'd had a chance to look through the entire works. So that's what's goin' on now. Funny how things happen. If there'd bin no Georgia lynchings, the reporter for a Pittsburgh daily would not have placed the wrong construction on the sitdown, the Mayor of Pittsburgh would not have been in on the controversy and the boys would not have got a chance to talk to the president of the company. They would have been snugly behind the same ol' eight ball.

Negro Newspaperman Strikes With Guild

Daily Worker 9-12-46

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — Among the striking editorial staff of the Philadelphia Record is the paper's only Negro reporter, Orrin Evans, who has been on the editorial staff for 10 years. Also on strike with Record employees are two Negro girls from the business department, staunchly aligned with white co-workers for a satisfactory wage standard as living costs mount.

The Philadelphia Newspaper Guild launched a wage increase drive against the Record and the Camden, N. J., Courier Post, both published by J. David Stern, some time ago and Stern's adamant attitude brought on the present strike. Evans has respect of his white co-workers by his uncompromising position in backing the Newspaper Guild's demand for higher wages.

State of Terror Seen Existing in Pa. Among Striking Migratory Farmers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 7-6-46

Strike-Breakers Imported, Tenants Shot at in Workers Struggle Against Starkey Farms

MORRISVILLE, Pa. — I spent a day, last week, learning the underlying factors of the five-week-old strike being waged by a group of migrant workers against the owners of the 3,000-acre Starkey Farms here.

This is what I found:

The strike is against living conditions as bad as any anywhere in the share-cropping South.

It is for the improvement of wages presently out of all proportion to the cost of living.

It is against the same forces which today are behind the klan revival, as well as against a group of strike-breakers out of Philadelphia and Trenton.

Children of 7 at Work

Male workers get an average of 50 cents an hour, women 45 cents and children from seven years of age and up get 15 to 30 cents.

The average total income for men is $15 to $25 weekly and $10 to $15 for women. It is often as low as $3.75 for children.

This is because all laborers work piece-meal and at all times of day and night in the fields and cannery.

Farm Store Gouges

Since the farms are five miles from town and there is no public transportation available, the workers do almost all of their trading at the farm store where prices range from 10 per cent to 50 per cent higher than off the farm.

The condition of the houses where the workers live can be judged from one called the "Stimson House."

It is a two-story building with an attic which is converted into four single-room quarters, where four families are housed.

There are 16 persons on the other two floors where the quarters consist of one and two rooms.

21k 1946

South Africa

6 Killed in African Gold Mine Strike

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (ANP) — Six native miners were killed by gunfire, six were trampled under foot, and 91 were injured, when white South African police fired upon 1500 black African strikers at the gates of the Rand Gold Mines at Subniegal recently. 21K 8-24-46

The riot started when the strikers attacked volunteer scab workers with a volley of stones as they sought entrance to the mines escorted by the police. Gunfire of the officers caused the group to surrender and return to work.

50,000 Strike

Strikes began several days ago among 50,000 natives in eight mines when they demanded a minimum of $2 a day to cope with the rising cost of living and to share an opportunity for a more decent existence.

The strikers at the Rand Mines, principally owned by the English, and some Dutch Africans, said to be the more vicious employers, and race baiters, are herded into corrals and stockades, and given little freedom of action.

Paid 45 Cents a Day

These natives are distinguished from the mixed blood mulattoes, who are mistreated also, and the whites whom they call Europeans. They make 45 cents a day in wages with an allowance of food valued at 30 cents a day.

During recent years the natives have organized unions. There are 18 of these now considering, urging a strike of all unions affiliated with the mine workers.

Not Free Citizens

Natives are not permitted to vote as free citizens, but have two white representatives in the union Parliament who represent all native and colored peoples.

These two people, Sen. A. Basner and Mrs. Ballinger, the latter a fighter for native rights, conferred with the white trades and labor council. As a result it is possible that the white trade unions will lend their support also for the first time.

Passes Restricted

A campaign against pass regulations for colored people, proposed recently at a national conference at Johannesburg, was launched after the strike began.

The organizers describe it as a mass struggle to culminate in a national stoppage of work and the burning of passes within three months. They were advised not to register under the new pass regulations restricting travel.

Africans Strike at Steel Mills

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

PRETORIA, South Africa.—For the first time in history, 2,000 colored workers struck and picketed the Union Steel Corporation mills in Transvaal, where they are demanding a wage increase of four cents an hour.

The strike was called by the African Iron and Steel Workers, who are still awaiting government recognition, and whom the employers say are discharged instead of on strike. Sat. 7-13-46

900 Negroes in Charleston cigar workers' strike

Los Angeles Tribune 2-9-46

CHARLESTON, S. C. — Nine hundred Negroes, mostly women, make up the majority of the CIO cigar workers now in the 16th week of their strike at the American Tobacco co.'s cigar plant here, it was learned this week. 2-7-46

The 900 and their 300 white fellow strikers are organized as Local 15, FTA-CIO, and are 99% women.

Although members of the National Maritime Union (CIO) entered the strike this week in support of the unionists, the company still refuses to talk with them and local police have challenged their right to talk and sing. Local 15 (583 King st., Charleston) is conducting a campaign for clothing, food, and funds, and has sent out letters to supporters asking help in the boycott against the company's products, especially Lucky Strike and Pall Malls.

Negroes Strike As Florence Fires Manager

Florence, Aug. 2—(Special)—Dismissal of Charles S. Gardiner as city manager of Florence, by a 4 to 1 vote of city council Thursday, was followed today by a walkout of some 30 Negro city employes, but they returned to their jobs after they were granted a wage increase of 12 cents an hour.

At a special session of council of Thursday, a letter was signed by three councilmen and Mayor R. F. Zeigler, and addressed to Gardiner notifying him that his services would be terminated as of August 1, 1946. Grounds for the dismissal were alleged "incompetence" and "unbusinesslike" management of the city's affairs.

This morning Negro employes in the trash, sewer and sanitary departments walked off their jobs when Mayor Zeigler asked them to "continue with your work until the council can take action."

A spokesman for about 30 employes who refused to go back to work at 7 a. m. said, "The man who has been looking out for us has been fired," and said the men would not return to work until requests for higher pay were met.

An extraordinary session of council was called immediately by Mayor Zeigler, and a 12-cents-an-hour increase in pay with a ten-hour-a-week decrease in working hours, was approved.

Spokesmen for the laborers were contacted late this morning and the men returned to work at 2 p. m. today after expressing satisfaction with council's proposals.

The discharge of Mr. Gardiner followed a request for his resignation at a regular council meeting last Thursday, July 25. He declined to submit it at the time, and later in the same meeting council voted to notify him of his dismissal. When notified of council's decision, Gardiner recommended that council "think it over a long time," and the dismissal action was retracted.

A Strike Changed Irene Reid

The Worker New York, N.Y. 2-24-46

By DOROTHY LOEB

THE American Tobacco strike made a speech-maker out of Irene Reid, 23, of Charleston, S. C.

This attractive Negro girl, part of a delegation that brought the strikers' message to New York audiences, never had spoken in public once before the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers hit the street last October.

The walkout dramatized a whole series of "firsts" for her. It was her first strike in the first union she ever belonged to and the first time she had an opportunity to give leadership. That leadership affected the tactics of her 2,500 brother and sister strikers in their fight against one of the country's most powerful corporations.

In Charleston, where the 1,200 strikers included 900 Negroes and 300 whites, 99 percent of them women, the union gave the city a "first" and it's one that Irene Reid is especially proud of.

"The whole town's talking because there was unity between Negro and white in the strike," she reports.

IRENE REID

"That never happened before in Charleston. People are just astonished. When the CIO first started organizing, they said we'd never all get together in the same union. When we went on strike, they said it would never last because we could never stick together. But we got together and we stayed together."

Miss Reid says this was the first CIO strike to hit Charleston and that it got good support from the community. Negro churches were particularly generous, but others gave, too.

She was named a delegate from her local to work with Philadelphia strikers, helped out there for a while, expecting that she'd get home soon. To her surprise, the union then proposed that she go on to New York as part of a delegation that explained the issues to organizations and promoted the strike's slogan: "LS/MFT—Lucky Strike Means Fink Tobacco." Sun 4-28-46

Headquarters for the delegation was City CIO Council offices at 1133 Broadway. Through dates arranged there, Miss Reid went out to tell the story of how the 2,500 American Tobacco Co. workers struck for a $2 a day increase, a 65-cent hourly minimum wage and a no discrimination clause in the contract. Miss Reid never doubted the outcome of the strike, though it lasted six months. "We'll win," she said—and they did.

AME Printers on Strike in Tenn.

NASHVILLE — Twelve employes of the printing department of the AME Church's Sunday School Union went on strike here, Feb. 6, for higher wages and a closed shop.

The department, with 25 employes—pressmen, printers, linotype operators and binders—was recently organized into a jim-crow auxiliary of the Nashville Printing and Specialty Workers' Union No. 521, AFL.

The NPSWU called a meeting Feb. 1, of all craftsmen employed by the AME Sunday School Union, the National Baptist Publishing Board, the Sunday School Publishing Board and the Claflin Printing Co., as the first step toward huddling all colored mechanics into a single jim-crow unit.

Selby Tells Problems

Pickets were thrown around the Sunday School Union building, displaying placards which read, "This House Unfair to Labor."

Dr. E. A. Selby, secretary of the AME Sunday School Union, said that he cannot pay higher wages, that he has no authority to sign a contract and that he cannot raise the price of literature for certain reasons.

Robert Harrell, union leader, suggested that they "eliminate waste" and pay the money to real workers.

Bishops Paid

Dr. Selby told a mixed union committee that he pays $3,000 a year to three bishops for traveling expenses, the salaries of three general officers of the church, plus $35 house rent per month.

He said one of the general officers "has done practically nothing in nearly two years;" and that he has to do much work for higher-ups without pay.

Baptists Ban Union

Efforts to organize employees of the Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention of America, Henry Allen Boyd, secretary, and those of the Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, Inc., A. M. Townsend, secretary, have been unsuccessful.

Ira T. Bryant, formerly head of the AME Sunday School Union, urged all Baptist employes to insist that white religious printing houses be organized first, reminding them of the recent California decision outlawing jim crow unions.

Texas

5,000 Negroes Quit Work With Whites

The Informer Houston Texas

1-26-46

BY ROBERT L. GREGORY

Houston— United Steel Workers of America went on strike from Houston Plant Sunday night. Among the 15,000 members of the CIO union which tied up steel production in the city were 5,000 Negroes.

The strike was called as answer to management's refusal to meet President Truman's proposal—a wage increase of $1.48 per day. Operators headed by giant United States Steel Corporation offered $1.28.

Steel producers had slowed down operations for an earlier strike deadline a week ago, postponed by Union President Murray at the request of President Truman. During the week some production was restored only to be curtailed again when the White House Conference at Washington failed.

Murray had originally requested a $2 a day pay hike, or 25 cents an hour. 1-26-46

Industry Against Pay Raise

For industry, Benjamin F. Fairless, president of the United States Steel corporation, said the companies could not afford to pay anything near $2 a day and that further, O. P. A. ceilings for steel products are too low, even without increasing wages, for the industry to operate profitably.

Hailed as the biggest strike ever staged in the United States radio reports said of the strike, it is a big fight between big business and big labor over higher wages. At the Huges Tool company where two unions are operating presently, the C. I. O. and the Independent Union, a reported move against the C. I. O. picket line bogged down when veterans of World War 11 fell in with the strikers or overslept the appointed hour for crashing the picket's line, and failed to show up. 1-26-46

Hughes Tool Scene Of Big Show

Hughes Tool company, where 1,500 Negroes are employed, is the scene of the big show for the steelworkers in Houston. In the picket line at 4:45 a.m. were a few Negroes scattered about at the various gates carring placards bearing the inscriptions: "NO APPLE SELLING TOMORROW 25 CENTS TODAY," "25 CENTS MEANS FOOD AND CLOTHES FOR OUR KIDS," and, "HUGHES TOOL IS UNFAIR." Negroes at the scene early Monday carrying placards were: James E. Lincoln, Rt. 10; Johnnie Johns, 1211 Worms; Robert Brewster, 1210 Worms; and Harold Blanton, 1209 Worms. These men belong to local No. 2457 of the C. I. O.

Pickets Seem Satisfied

F. T. Henry, member of local No. 2457 and executive in the organization, was in charge of the "picket line". Members of the union among the whites and Negroes seemed satisfied with the progress of the strike. Nearly 75 cars were on the inside of the gates at the Marsden and Texas streets' entrance. A dozen squad cars of city police and at least a half dozen motorcycle cops were constantly on vigil lest violence should rear-up.

Such co-operation has been accomplished between the local white union, No. 1742, and, the Negro local, No. 2457, and the executive heads charged the Houston Management representatives with "flouting the will" of President Harry Truman, and said, that they are "in obvious collaboration with a handful of headstrong, irresponsible employees now threatens the peace of Houston." 1-26-46

Negroes Sleep In Plant

The strike was well planned and orderly, and, "inside picket lines" were reported operating in union -company strike conduct agreements. According to a company spokesman, it is reported that nearly 2,000 or more workers were in the plant and working by 7:30 a.m. However, union estimates broke this figure down to about 100 workers including 22 Negro workers half of whom went into the Hughes Tool Company Sunday around 1: p.m. prepared to eat, sleep and stay inside for the duration of the strike.

Cries of "double crossers," 'rats', and some other unprintables were hurled through the fence when the word became common that some Negroes were sleeping inside. Those reported having taken their bedding to sleep on the company furnished cots were: Rev. Lewis "Preacher" Harris, former chaplain of the local No. 2457 CIO; George Robertson, Willie Keys, Willie Glover, Ervin Lagand, Jessie Harrington, Mack Ware, Jessie Angleton, Willie Walker, John Mosley and Mrs. Bessie Mosley.

These Crashed The Line

The following persons crashed the picket lines early Monday morning before 7:00 a.m. either in the back end of someone's car or through the gate over near a railroad track: John Sargent Mrs. Martha Esau, Anthony Brown, Mrs. Fay Wright, Roosevelt Jackson, Waddy Jackson, Esau Lofton, former soldier and veteran of World War 11. Isaac Barnett, Mrs. Garfield Barnett and J. C. Christmas.

Only two of the above "crashers" were C. I. O. unionists, Rev. Lewis Harris and Ervin Lagand.

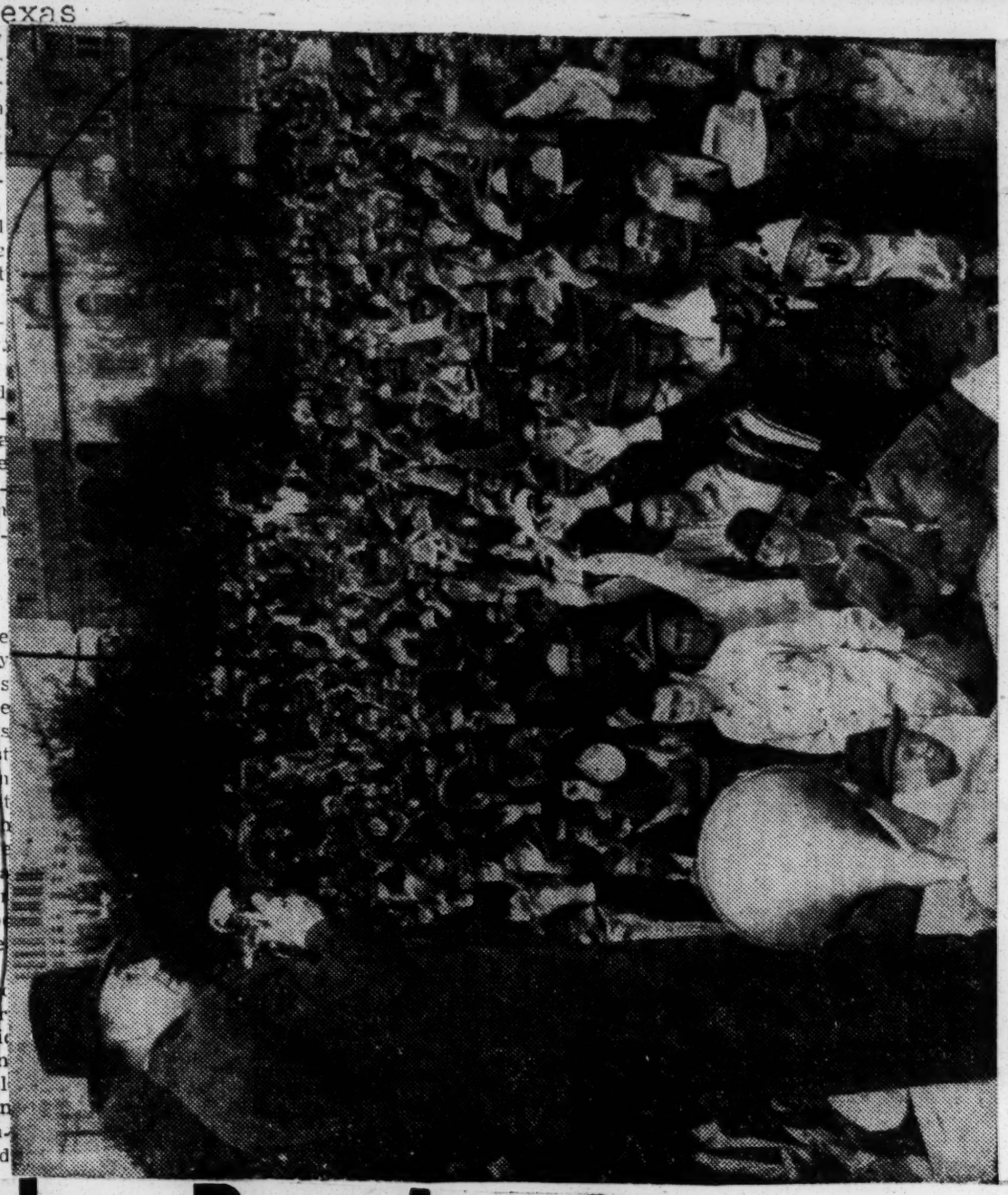
Members of each union and each local of the C. I. O. and Independent factions displayed a strong spirit of democracy at the scene of the strike. It was difficult to distinguish C. I. O. from Independent strikers early Monday morning.

Steel Industry Hurt

1-26-46

The United Steelworkers strike has paralyzed the steel industry throughout the nation. Both sides indicated they felt a long strike is in prospect and repercussions of the strike will be felt by almost every industry in the Houston Area. A prolonged steel walkout will halt Houston's construction and reconversion program for the year and the possible loss of a big weekly pay roll, more than $600,000 in the war years, will be felt immediately by the city's retail merchants.

Houston area plants involved in the strike are: Hughes, Mosher Reed Roller Bit, Texas Electric Steel Casting, American Can Continental Can, Tennessee Coal Iron and Railroad, American Chain and Cable, Dedman Foundry, Rheem Manufactoring and Sheffield Steel.



CHEERING TEXAS STRIKE SETTLEMENT are thousands of AFL members who took part in a general work stoppage in Houston. Speaking is Secretary D. W. Maxwell of the Houston Building Trades Council.

Negro Labor Prominent In General Strike in South

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 3-10-46

By DAVID CARPENTER

HOUSTON, Texas.—Last week the working class of Houston made history for the entire South. For the first time an aroused labor movement in a Southern city engaged in a general strike. Every industry, every service in Houston manned by AFL workers was shut down as the AFL Central Trades Council declared a "labor holiday" in support of the wage struggles of city workers.

Thousands of CIO Steel Workers still out on strike against local steel fabricators demonstrated their support of the general strike.

The events leading up to the general strike were:

1. City employes in the garbage collection service and other services had not during the war received any wage increases.

2. The City-County Employees Union, AFL, for almost a year has been trying to get a nine or 10-cent hourly increase in wages for its members.

3. About two weeks ago the City Council, in making up the new budget, refused to appropriate money for raises.

4. The city workers then called a strike and shut down a number of city services.

SOLID PICKET LINES

5. The city officials attempted to run these services with scabs, but solid picket lines made that impossible.

6. The city officials then issued an ultimatum that if the workers did not return immediately they would lose their civil service status.

7. The City-County Employes Union then turned their demands over to the Central Trades Council.

8. The Central Trades Council attempted to negotiate with the city officials, who refused to meet with it on the grounds that it did not consist of city workers.

The Central Trades Council then called the general strike.

On the day of the general strike, 10,000 AFL and CIO workers marched on City Hall. For three hours the workers stood there, listening to their leaders, despite the intimidating presence of over 300 police-

men.

William Mann, of the striking Steel Workers, CIO, declared at the meeting:

"All our locals are represented here to protest the way they're pushing you around as Hitler did in Germany."

As the result of the general strike, **nomic war between the boss and the worker. That is the Karl Marx theory. To Karl Marx the employer is the natural enemy of the worker and the worker is the natural enemy of the employer. That theory can have only one outcome—war. . . . Most of the Houston employes, of course, never gave Karl Marx a thought. But they are testing out the Marx theory, whether they so intended or not. They are learning the hard way."**

On the eve of the general strike, a meeting was held by the Southside Civic Council in support of the city strikers' demands. The meeting was held in a civil courthouse courtroom. There is a ruling that no Negroes may meet in the courthouse. But this ruling was broken down. More than a third of the audience were Negroes. And this breakdown of Jimcrow was fought for by the white workers. the City Council was forced to meet with a committee of the Central Trades Council. It permitted the striking workers to go back to work without discrimination or loss of civil service status. It set up a committee to compare wages of the city workers with those in private industry. Dem 3-10-46

NEGRO STRIKERS

The majority of the original striking workers were Negroes yet the entire labor movement in Houston rallied to their support.

The workers recognized the political importance of this strike and determined upon further political action.

That the political significance of this strike did not escape the notice of monopoly capital can be seen in an editorial in the **Dallas Morning News**, entitled "Houston and Karl Marx," which reads in part:

"There is a theory that working for a living is a sort of eco-

1946 21K

Trainmen

The Two Striking Brotherhoods

As these lines are written the leaders of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen have embarked upon their long-threatened strike for better pay and more favorable contracts which has resulted in Government seizure of the railroads.

Colored people would certainly be more sympathetic with the strikers if these two unions were not so notoriously anti-Negro.

It is because of these two unions that no person of known Negro ancestry can work as engineer or trainman on any American railroad, no matter what his qualifications.

These two unions which now berate the railroads for not agreeing to settle with them on their own terms are monopolistic organizations with constitutional provisions against Negroes which Hitler would have approved.

There are well over a million Negroes in the unions of this country, but none in these unions, and the few remaining Negroes who are still permitted to work as firemen are gradually being weeded out by the pressure of these and other railroad unions.

The "closed shop" under which these Big Four brotherhoods operate is definitely closed against Negroes and is even difficult for most white men to break into.

For this reason the railroad brotherhoods represent the worst in labor racketeering and it is difficult for any colored American to sympathize with them in their struggle or even to view it objectively.

On the contrary, these four Brotherhoods are a very important reason why a Federal FEPC law should be passed to loosen their racial stranglehold on the transportation system of the United States.

Railroad Workers

By JAMES H. HOGANS

NEW YORK.—All Pullman porters holding regular assignments prior to the railroad strike have returned to their jobs, but they are not pleased with the enforced layoff. It wasn't the financial loss suffered that is resented so much as is the feeling that they were treated unfairly.

Mr. Hogans

The average veteran porter is not only a conscientious worker, but he takes pride in the type of service he performs, and has always defended it and its management against undue criticism.

It has been his boast that his employer was more considerate of its workers than most of the rail carriers.

Rude Shock

It was a rude shock indeed when Pullman management took the recent action it did. The reactions of one veteran are typical:

"I have been with the company for 43 years, yet strike took my seniority rights and practically put me into the streets for two weeks without any valid reason. I consider that a rotten deal," he said.

The consensus among porters and conductors is that the action was an economy move, designed to forestall payments for idle or "held-for-service" time. Porter representatives contend that the men could have been allowed to remain on their jobs and that eventuality left to arbitration between management and the union.

Porters Not Paid During Rail Strike

NEW YORK — Although not involved in the recent railroad strike, approximately 7,000 porters of the Pullman Company were taken off the payroll during the revolt, an official of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters stated.

The move not only threw veteran porters out of regular employment, several with 50 years' service, but nullified their seniority status, according to the officials.

Management-Union Conference

T. T. Paterson, of the union's grievance committee stated that the unfair action would be taken up in a conference with the management and A. Philip Randolph president of the porters' union scheduled for June 6.

George A. Kelly, former publicity director, and J. P. Leach, former New York superintendent, were recently named in charge of the Pullman car service management.

21k 1946

West Virginia

Negro dead in first coal strike violence

Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat. 12-7-46

WELCH, W. Va.—A Negro was one of two miners killed last week in the strikebound West Virginia coal fields, in the first violence arising out of John L. Lewis' silent defiance of a federal anti-strike injunction.

He was Will Hunt, 56, of Eckman, who together with James Roosevelt Thomas, 40, of Bottom Creek, former UMW committeeman and father of three children, was shot by Sam Curry, 38.

According to authorities, Curry, foreman of the small Bobbie Pocahantas Coal co. mine at Eureka Hollow, was unloading coal from a truck when Hunt and Thomas appeared and tried to induce him to shut down the mine. In the ensuing argument, the pair threatened to pull him from the truck and he drew his automatic pistol. Hunt was shot twice, one bullet entering near the heart, the other passing through the collarbone.

Curry, formally charged with murder, is being held at an unidentified jail "for his own protection".

Contractors Approve Plan To Unionize Negro Laborers

St. Petersburg's General Contractors' association made labor history last night when the organization signified approval of A. F. of L. plans to strengthen its organization of Negro laborers.

Following an address by Ralph A. Stuart, state organizer of the A. F. of L., who told of plans to get all Negro laborers in the union, association members pledged support of the program.

Though no immediate action is planned by the association until another report is made by Stuart on plans to have a representative sent to the Tampa Bay area, individual members indicated that they would encourage their workers to join the union.

EXPLAINING the unusual action, probably the first time in the history of organized labor in St. Petersburg where "management" is assisting in unionization, association members said they desired to "standardize" labor in the construction industry.

This, they said, will prevent possible walkouts of other skills if an all-union job is demanded. Further it will standardize wages of labors and prevent hi-jacking of labors by unauthorized and fly-by-night builders and contractors.

Association members again reiterated that they will not pay above legally established pay scales for skilled labor. Mention was made of painters demanding increased hourly wages despite the fact that the association has received no authority to increase the scale.

ATTEMPTS of the organization to force all builders of homes, who build with intention of immediate sale, to hold city licenses as contractors was doomed to failure. A committee reporting on the program said that city officials claimed they had no authority to force such builders to obtain contractors licenses.

Gulf Island Contractors and their president, A. E. Crooks, were accepted into membership. President William Mills presided.

AFL Again Refuses to Back FEPC Law

The Afro-American

CHICAGO — Although it endorsed the principle of fair employment practices, the American Federation of Labor, at its 65th convention last week, again refused to support national FEPC legislation.

Approving an executive council report which stated that compulsory Government control would deny trade unions the right of self-government, the convention voted against backing any FEPC law which would make discrimination by unions illegal. Baltimore, Md.

However, the body did go on record as favoring Federal anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation, and condemning the white primary and Ku Klux Klan. Sat. 10-26-46

Stagehands Ban Vote of Negro Locals at Parley

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 7-25-46

Special to the Daily Worker

CHICAGO, July 24. — Delegates from Negro locals of the AFL Stagehands Union were barred from admittance to both the main floor and balcony at the opening session of its 38th convention here.

Following vigorous and militant protests by the barred Negro delegates and publicity of their exclusion in the press, the leadership of IATSE "magnanimously" permitted the Negro delegates to take seats in the balcony on the second day of the convention.

Not a single Negro is counted among the 1000-odd delegates officially seated on the convention floor today, in spite of the fact that 30 so-called "auxiliary" locals, into which Negro members are segregated, officially elected delegates to represent them, in accordance with the IATSE Constitution.

The "auxiliary" locals' representatives are not recognized as delegates to the convention, although they are duly chartered the same as all other locals of the union.

Representatives of the "auxiliary" locals expect a reply to their demand for full and direct representation, pending since the Union's 1942 convention, in the report of the Executive Board, scheduled to be heard in the next few days.

Proceedings of the second day of the Convention included the report of the International president, Richard F. Walsh, at the morning session and an address by Eric Johnston, motion picture industry "czar" at the afternoon session.

Stating that "I have not been and am not now a "Red-baiter," Walsh nevertheless delivered an anti-Communist tirade as a spokesman to divert charges that gangland colleagues of Willie Bioff and George E. Browne, convicted labor racketeers, are still running the union. Walsh is being opposed for the position of International President by William Bennett.

AFL Backs Segregation In Washington USES

Defender, Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-24-46

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Joining Senator Bilbo — virtual mayor of this city—the AFL last week informed the United States Employment Services that if that agency moves to end race segregation in its local offices, the union will seek to have the agency abolished here.

Declaring itself unalterably opposed to the mixing of Negroes and whites in the nation's capitol, the AFL union threatened to take the issue to the House Appropriations Committee, charging the USES with attempting to bring about social reforms.

CIO Fights Segregation

The local CIO offered a hopeful contrast to the discriminatory practices of the AFL. The CIO last week threw a picket line around the offices of Robert Goodwin, national director of USES, with 200 white and colored pickets marching before his offices in the Labor Department carrying signs which read: "Goodwin Defends Segregation at USES," "Jim Crow is Hitler's Brother," and "Smash Jim Crow at USES."

While the AFL boasted of how it maintains segregation in locker rooms, tool sheds, eating facilities, toilets and offices, Miss Gertrude Evans, secretary of the Washington Industrial Union Council (CIO), said that the CIO would continue its all-out struggle with the forces of discrimination and segregation in the USES.

House Committee "Deal"

The fight against segregation in the USES dates back to hearing before the House Appropriations Committee in 1941 when reactionary members of the committee, who opposed integration, made an alleged off-the-record "deal" with USES heads in an agreement that segregation would be continued.

Following the "deal," the United Public Workers, CIO, has twice protested to the United States Civil Service Commission that the agency was using discriminatory practices in its referrals of white and Negro applicants to government jobs.

Charges Confirmed

A commission investigation verified the union's charges and the commission ordered USES to desist from such practices.

Following a checkup by the UPWA two months later, discriminatory practices were still discovered in the USES. The Civil Service promised another investigation and added that if UPWA charges were found to be true the matter would be taken to President Truman.

The recent AFL threat is recognized by Washington progressives as a last-ditch stand to forestall any change in the capitol's racial pattern.

SIU Members Ban JC: Leaders Balk

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK — Although members of the AFL Seafarers International Union voted 340 to 93 two weeks ago to abolish separate hiring halls for white and colored workers, SIU leaders have ruled that the union's long-standing discriminatory policy will remain.

The integration of hiring halls was inspired during the 10-day walkout and general maritime strike last month, when the SIU's colored hiring hall on the fourth floor at its headquarters became the "Education Department."

Enjoyed Equality

For the first time, colored members who constitute about one-fifth of the 11,000 union members, enjoyed equal rights — they marched side by side with white pickets, ate in the same soup kitchen, and participated in all strike activities without discrimination. Sat. 10-19-46

Anti-Jim Crow Union Meets In Alabama

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP)—The 87-year-old International Molders and Foundry Workers, AFL, known for anti-Jim Crow policies, will hold their annual convention for the first time in the deep south.

An estimated 650 delegates are expected at the convention, I. C. Chapman, international representative, said. He has spent several weeks here helping to prepare for the meeting. Sat 8-24-46

The molders union throughout its entire jurisdiction has only eight all-Negro locals and these exist by their own wish. Two of the largest IMFW locals in the south are composed wholly of Negro members. One is at Holt with a membership of approximately 1,000 and the other, at Anniston, has a membership of about 900. All other union locals are interracial with white and Negro officers.

AFL Aide Badly Beaten in South

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 7.—The American Federation of Labor charged today that one of its organizers was beaten almost to death last Friday by a mob at Thomaston, Ga. Fri. 11-8-46

George L. Googe, southern AFL director, asked the Department of Justice and state and local law enforcement agencies to "vigorously prosecute" those responsible for the alleged beating.

Googe said the labor organizer, identified as Robert Walk, was taken to a Thomaston hospital where 47 stitches were taken in his head as a result of a beating about the face with a blackjack. He said the union man was also "kicked, knifed and his clothing was almost completely cut from his body during the attack."

Equality Denied Railway Clerks

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO—Determination on the part of the Brotherhod of Railway Clerks, AFL, to continue to deny full membership to minority workers in the Chicago area was disclosed recently through a letter written by P. R. Flynn, division chairman of the brotherhood.

Flynn, in his letter, made public by Willard S. Townsend, international president of the United Transportation Employees, CIO, declares:

"Railroad officials have been very co-operative recently and would rather employ white workers but find it practically impossible to obtain them in sufficient numbers to replace minority workers." Sat. 10-19-46

Most non-white members of the clerks brotherhood are employed as baggage and freight handlers, station janitors, elevator operators, and general workmen. It is to

AFL Booklet Attacks Anti-Negro Charge

The Pittsburgh Courier

ATLANTA, Nov. 2—(AP)—A pamphlet has been issued by the American Federation of Labor to counter what it calls "the cheap peddling of propaganda that the AFL discriminates against Negro workers."

these jobs, rather than the higher paying positions to which Flynn declares:

The booklet recites that the AFL meeting opens Tuesday, Oct. 22 and will close Thursday, Oct. 24.

Highlighting the sessions of Negro railroad workers, will be the appearance of A. Phillip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who will be the principal speaker at a mass meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22 at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

Other high officials of the trainmen who will be here for the convention will be M. P. Webster, of

Newspaper Herald

THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONVEN
TION of Railroad Firemen, Switchmen and Brakemen is scheduled fo
at the Little Masonic Temple, Sev
enth Avenue and 14th Street. The

Sun. 11-3-46

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"We invi
common lot

Chicago, vice president: Ashley L Totten, of New York City, secretary-treasurer; T. T. Patterson Eastern zone supervisor, and Benjamin F. McLurin, international field organizer. Birmingham, Ala

A dance Wednesday night at the Elks' Rest, and a banquet Thursday evening at Little Savoy Cafe will be outstanding among the social features of the convention. Sun.

The meeting is sponsored by the local Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Ladies Auxiliary, and the Provisional Committee of Colored Locomotive Firemen. Among the leading committeemen are W. Richardson, Frank Howard, Joe Boston, Casey Dixon, R. Watkins, W. M. Merriweather, Charles Lockett, and Mrs. Corrine Watts for the ladies auxiliary. 10-20-46

The public is cordially invited to hear these internationally famous speakers on Tuesday evening.

AFL Carmen Keep Unfair Policies

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO —After a recent two-day controversy on the convention floor here, the AFL Brotherhood of Railway Carmen voted to admit colored members to full equality only in States where it is required to do so by law. Sat. 10-5-46

A flood of resolutions from both colored and white lodges poured into the convention hall demanding equal rights for all carmen regardless of race color.

Encouraged by Decision

The carmen now feel stronger than ever before that full democracy can be gained as a result of a recent Kansas Supreme Court decision that awarded six men full membership when he said, "Discrimination would do violence to the basic principles of democracy." Afro-American

Brotherhood officials said its constitution required segregated units but added that anti-discrimination laws in New York, Missouri and Kansas required full equality for all members. Baltimore, Md

CIO Hits AFL N.Y. Color Bar

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Rap 'Auxiliaries' In Railroad Unions

Sat. 10-5-46

NEW YORK—Racial segregation in AFL unions is not restricted to the South, it was emphasized here as the CIO United Railroad Workers of America soundly rapped Negro "auxiliary locals" among AFL railroad workers on New York Docks at a conference in the Theresa Hotel last week.

Al Harris, vice president of Local 1463 told the conference of stevedores, freight handlers and tallmen of the New York Central railroad company that prejudices in AFL railroad unions are deep-seated. Harris displayed copies of the constitutions of three AFL unions — the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, which stated that "all whites" were eligible for membership, but made no provisions for Negroes.

Whites Represent Negroes

The Carmen and Maintenance locals in their rules for membership declared that while Negroes were to be admitted to membership in the union they would be restricted to an auxiliary, and at any convention or conference of the union, the Jim-Crowed members would have to select a white delegate from the nearest local to represent them.

Charging that it has been the policy of AFL Railroad union on New York piers to discriminate against workers because of their color or race, Francis M. McMahon, director of the Eastern district of the URRWA-CIO, declared that this practice has retarded the ability of all the workers to advance in matters of working conditions, wages, etc. "All railroad workers are first class citizens and there is no room in our scheme of American life for this antiquated Jim Crowism and we demand equality on our jobs."

Recently local 1463 signed working agreements with seven New York railroads and has been foremost in the fight to break down racial barriers on the piers. Other officers speaking at the meeting were Edwin Berry, Henry Hengartner, Eugene Attreed and Captain R. H. Kolb.

IS THIS DICTATORSHIP?

The most feared men in New York today are the walking delegates of the Musicians' Union, Local 802, AF of L. These agents hold the power of life and death over those hapless gentlemen who make with the music.

So exorbitant have the demands of James S. Petrillo, union president, become that more and more cabarets and night clubs have been forced to dispense with orchestras altogether in order to keep open. The Afro-Amer

These closings force more and more units out of work. Today, many who were top-flight performers are now found as waiters, janitors, shipping clerks and holding other menial jobs, far removed from the entertainment world and also far below their former incomes during the lush days.

But once a musician always a musician, so, many of these artists, in order to pick up extra rent money at night, accept jobs with small combinations playing in the out-of-the-way halls in Brooklyn, the Bronx and on Long Island.

Nevertheless, both they and their fellow musicians live in constant fear of the walking delegates who are constantly on the prowl, dropping in unexpectedly wherever they hear a trumpet note being blown. Baltimore, Md.

The agent checks the credentials of all involved. If one member is behind in his union dues the other members are given heavy fines. If the majority are non-union the legit union men are penalized. Sat. 10-19-46

If none are union members the establishment is placed on the blacklist so the owner can never hire a union band if he so desires later without paying a heavy ransom into the union coffers.

A walking delegate has the arbitrary power to pull a whole orchestra out of a dance hall — even if there are thousands of dancers on the floor — for some actual or fancied infraction of union rules.

If the band is ordered out, cooks, waiters, hat girls, etc., may have to follow suit — closing up a thriving business overnight. That is why a walking musicians' delegate is the most feared man in all New York.

Asked what provisions the union made for men who were forced out of their profession by the enforcement of these rules, I was told that that was not the union's concern.

Their rules were made for the protection of the many and those who became casualties were just forgotten. But if a musician remains unemployed a year or so and then gets a break, he must pay up all back dues before he can work.

This runs into big figures. If he prefers to waive the payment of back dues and rejoins as a new member in order to save money, he is placed on a waiting list and called up at some future date at the discretion of union executives.

In the meantime, whatever break he might have contemplated may be gone. That, too, is just his hard luck.

AFL Pamphlet Favors Negroes

A new pamphlet entitled "Pie n the Sky," with a large question nark, and termed "a challenge to the Negro worker," has just been issued by the Southern Policy Committee of the American Federation of Labor in an effort to counteract propaganda that the Negro is not wanted in A. F. of L. unions.

The A. F. of L. at the present has over 650,000 dues-paying Negro members, the pamphlet says, "the largest and best paid Negro membership in any labor organization in the world"

These Negro members "know the policy of the A. F. of L. to be of fine purpose and great accomplishments on behalf of Negro wage earners," it states, and adds:

"The cheap peddling of propaganda that the A. F. of L. discriminates against Negro workers is a false and lying campaign to deceive the unorganized Negro workers, and is an injury and set-back to that worker."

Prepared mainly by Negro members of the policy committee, the pamphlet says:

"We invite you to join our ranks of the over 7,000,000 paid-up A. F. of L. members, and offer you—not pie in the sky—but a hard fight shoulder to shoulder with all workers of whatever race or creed to improve the common lot of all."

Georgia AFL Meet Pledges Victory In Drive To Organize State's Labor

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service.

MACON, May 16—The Georgia Federation of Labor convention pledged not to rest until every Georgia worker is organized into the American Federation of Labor, after hearing one of its organizers charge industry with holding products from consumers "in the hope of defeating the OPA."

The organizational plan in use in Georgia was given added strength by the announcement of George B. Googe, Southeastern Representative of the AFL, that the Georgia plan had been adopted nationally by the AFL. Fri. 5-17-46

Googe said Thursday that plans call for state organizations to do their own organizing with all money spent matched dollar for dollar by the American Federation of Labor. He explained that manpower will also come from state groups with the national body furnishing personnel when asked to do so by a state. Fri. 5-17-46

Googe said the AFL plans to double its membership by 1948, when the next national biennial AFL conference is held. He said that in the 16 states which he directs there are 8,600 local unions with a total of 1,800,000 members.

Speaking on organization, Miss Carmen Lucia, of Atlanta, International AFL Representative, said: "We realize that the task of organizing the unorganized workers in the State of Georgia is a gigantic one. First, because of the growing industrial expansion of our great state. Secondly, because of the many obstacles placed in the path of labor unions by monied interests, and third, the state of apathy and antipathy on the part of the Southern worker himself, caused by the large amount of anti-union propaganda fed to him via the radio and press."

"The economy of the South is rapidly changing from the economy of cotton to that of industrial products. Miss Lucia declared, with the advent of industrial plants, comes the problem of preparing our Southern workers for the difference in this economy. We must see to it that they become skilled and efficient for these numerous jobs, and that they are paid a living wage commensurate with the cost of living.

"Now that the war is over and the peace is in the making, the American worker merely desires a wage that will give him some assurance of economic security.

The Organization Committee Chairman said the Georgia Federation accuses the "organized industrialists for waging a sitdown strike against the American people, and accuses the Chambers of Commerce of the United States for aiding and abetting them."

Industrial leaders were also accused for their "strangle hold on production and distribution through their monopolies and cartels."

"Organized industry while guilelessly placing the blame on organized labor for industrial strife is guilty of this very crime," Miss Lucia added. "They are withholding finished goods, already produced and sorely needed, from American consumers, in the hope of defeating the OPA and thereby demanding exorbitant prices for products already made by workers in the past months under strain. While the warehouses are swollen with badly needed merchandise, the pious and unctuous industrialists sputter about the delay in reconversion and the lack of goods caused unnecessary strikes. Fri. 5-17-46

Miss Lucia added that in the face of these "flagrant violations" of the American public's needs, the American labor movement is once more before the court of public opinion as "defendants accused of a crime perpetrated and committed by others."

"A great struggle is developing in the Southland today," the woman labor leader continued. "The forces of democracy must reassemble and gird themselves against the forces of oppression. In the past, Northern industries and interests were brought to the Southland without regard as to whether their presence in our States would be beneficial.

"The various Southern Chambers of Commerce delighted in welcoming the chiseling type of Northern employer on the promise that they would be free from labor strike and that cheap and contented labor abounded in Dixie. Our city fathers were also responsible in encouraging this type of employer through bait of tax exemptions and free buildings.

"We of the South must see to it that when industry does come to the South that such industries will be willing to pay the Southern worker, in due time after experience is reached, the same rate of pay as elsewhere in the country. Wage differentials only create less productivity on the part of the lower paid worker and lower economy for the entire community.

Southern workers can be as productive as other workers in other parts of our nation if their skill and talents are given equal opportunity."

G. Barker, Atlanta, an international representative, spoke Thursday afternoon on the national strike situation. He said strikes on the order of the coal stoppage take from about one to 400 days for workers to regain losses made by time missed from work. In comparsion, Barker explained that telephone workers recently received a 20 percent minimum increase without losing any time from their jobs. Fri. 5-17-46

A Negro organizer for the AFL, Columbus Maiden, told the convention that the Negro members and unions of Georgia must be given a voice in affairs of the state federation.

He added that the AFL has more than 375,000 Negro members, and the future of the AFL depends on whether the two groups can pull together for a common cause.

The convention will end in Macon early Friday afternoon with the election of officers.

AFL Refuses To Back FEPC

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO — The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor refused to endorse fair employment practice legislation in its official report to the 65th national convention on Monday. Sat. 10-12-46

However, the Executive Council report, released to the press on Sunday, carried endorsement of antilynch and anti-poll tax legislation now pending in Congress.

If the Executive Council had recommended passage of the FEPC legislation, the AFL would have been saying in effect that the jim-crow auxiliary system of that union and its lily-white brotherhoods would have to go.

The Executive Council report requested that delegates follow the pattern as set by the AFL in 1943 and 1944 and go on record as opposing what it terms as "Government domination" in the matter of fair employment practices.

BOILERMAKERS GRANT NEGRO WORKERS EQUAL UNION RIGHTS

Press Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

OAKLAND, Cal. — (ANP) — Jim crow died in the all-white Boilermakers union last week through a recent dramatic resolution that grants equal membership status to Negro shipyard workers, thereby bringing to a victorious finish a costly struggle against the powerful union that began during the war.

Information on the union's sudden about-face policy regarding Negro workers was contained in a letter from the union's president to Ray Thompson, chairman of the Shipyard Workers' Committee Against discrimination, which stated clearly that all "locals of the Boilersmakers' union in California shall admit Negroes as full members, with no reservations" and that "all auxiliary locals in California shall be suspended." Sat. 6-8-46

The letter marked a climax to a fight which began in the spring of 1942, when a group of workers, headed by Thompson, made formal protest to the Ship Fitters local of San Francisco regarding their policy of excluding Negroes. Joined by the Bay Area Council Against discrimination, Thompson's group enlisted the aid of white workers in petitioning the international union for a fair policy toward the minority worker.

"I can feel as one who has helped in a struggle which was for a just cause," commented Thompson in reply to a question as to how he felt by learning of the union's action. "Our organization has spent more than $3,000 in this struggle and this money has come from the workers themselves. All of us have suffered, so it seems fitting that all feel happy over the victory." Sat 6-8-46

Walter Williams, chairman of the shipyard Workers Committee for Equal participation, remarked that "this action on the part of the boilermakers symbolizes a victory of the progressive forces of America and our community." Thompson, now a campaign manager for the Rev. Clayton D. Russell, a candidate for supervisor of the 2nd supervisorial district, paid tribute to Rev. Russell for the part he played in the fight for Negroes in the Boilermakers union.

Five years ago, the Marin Ship workers, an all-Negro organization, spearheaded the first legal battle for admittance to the all-white Boilermakers union under the leadership of Joseph James of San Francisco's NAACP. The Marin ship workers carried the fight to the California Supreme court and won a favorable decision by declaring the "closed shop" invalid where discrimination was practiced. Auxiliary locals were ruled illegal.

Similar decisions were handed down in the East Bay case of Thompson versus Moore Dry Dock company and Williams versus Richmond Shipyard. In October, 1945, the workers at Bethelhem-Alameda shipyard went on a strike for 30 per cent pay increase and stayed out for five months. The management of Bethlehem signed a contract with the Boilermakers' union during this time, although the union was still operating Auxiliary locals for Negroes in spite of two supreme court rulings out-lawing auxiliaries.

A suit was filed, under the leadership of A. Brown, against the company and union restraining them from collecting dues from Negroes and voiding the "closed shop" contract to discriminating unions. The superior court of San Francisco granted permanent restraining orders in both cases and the Negro workers returned to their jobs. 6-8-46

The unions dispatched Negro workers with special clearance and refused to accept their money for membership in the regular locals following the superior court's action. Adoption of the anti-bias resolution has been interpreted here as a sweeping victory for Negro workers and a forward step for the Boilermakers union. More than 15,000 Negroes are affected by the union's change of membership policy.

Greenville Labor Council Hits A. F. L. Stand on Negroes

Greenville, June 25. (AP)—A showdown in Southern labor ranks regarding the negro in labor today appeared possible with the adoption by the Greenville Trades and Labor council last night of a resolution strongly protesting what was called an "arbitrary" program outlined by a policy committee in Atlanta two weeks ago, for the A. F. L. southern organizational drive.

The resolution took particular issue with the portion of the program which threatened destruction to any A. F. L. affiliate which did not "strictly adhere to the principles of equality of opportunity for all without regard to race, creed, or color. . . ."

The meeting was attended by Earle Britton, president of the South Carolina Federation of Labor and a member of the committee who drafted the program in Atlanta.

Mr. Britton said he would make no statement on the issue of the negro's place in labor, but assured the council no attempt would be made to destroy them as a result of their stand on the issue.

The resolution, drafted by L. E. Brookshire, president of the Greenville central body, at the request of its members, will be presented at the convention of the South Carolina Federation of Labor in Charleston Friday and Saturday. Mr. Brookshire is a former president of the state federation.

Members of the Greenville group in Atlanta. He cited a portion of the program state federation rule requiring that calling upon Southern A. F. L. affiliates to "strictly adhere to the resolutions be submitted 10 days before the conference, but it was decided to present the resolution from the floor, in the hope that a two-thirds vote of the convention would waive the 10-day rule.

In presenting the resolution to the council, Mr. Brookshire protested two features of the program announced by the policy committee in Atlanta.

Mr. Brookshire said "our resolution was brought about by the committee's stand on the fair employment practices committee."

The Boilermakers Surrender

After a long fight to preserve its racial privileges, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, and Helpers of America, has finally adopted a resolution providing for the abolition of auxiliary lodges (jim crow) in California and the admission of Negro workers to regular lodges in California.

The Boilermakers surrendered not because of any change of heart on the racial issue, but because of court actions instituted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in California and Rhode Island.

The NAACP had the loyal and courageous support of the jim-crowed colored workers and all people of good-will throughout the country.

Now that the California Boilermakers have given in, the fight against this union's discriminatory policies must be pressed in every other State of the Union without delay.

Such unions are actually criminal combinations in restraint of trade and commerce, and as such, can be prosecuted, and must be.

Similarly, the Big Four Railroad Brotherhoods are illegal combinations which conspire to either prevent Negroes from making a living in certain skilled trades or to corral them in separate locals which have no voting power and are simply dues-gathering rackets.

There has long been a conspiracy in this country to prevent in any and every way possible the employment of Negroes in skilled trades, and that conspiracy must be broken up if there is ever to be such a thing as industrial democracy in this land.

These discriminating unions bitterly critize Big Business for attempting to crush them, but they are even more guilty of doing the very same thing toward people of their own class who happen to be a few shades darker.

It would be a catastrophe for the Negro worker if such organizations should gain more power than they already have.

Fortunately, the Negro workers have the law on their side, and if they press their cause with vigor and determination through the courts of the land, they will ultimately crush the virus of labor union jim crowism.

Negro Unionists Barred from Chicago Meeting

Chicago, July 22.—(U.P.): Negro members, barred while delegates listened to a plea for racial tolerance, appealed to higher union authorities and were admitted today to the convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Motion Picture Operators, (A.F.L.).

Lee Louis, Houston, Texas, the spokesman for the negroes, said that 30 negroes representing 500 negro members of local unions had been barred from the convention's opening session.

While they were seeking admittance, the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, auxiliary bishop of the Chicago Catholic archdiocese told more than 1,000 delegates:

"We discover that we need basically love for one another. . . the love of Chinese for Caucasian, of the negro for the white, of the Pole for the Russian, of the Irish for the Jew and the love of the American for all the world."

Louis and two other negro representatives, Allie Laury, Richmond, Va., and Milton Bell, Philadelphia, said that the negro auxiliary local unions paid full union assessments but were not allowed a vote at the biennial convention.

Louis said negro delegates were admitted to the convention floor in Columbus, Ohio, in 1942, and to the balcony at the 1944 convention at St. Louis. He said that the negroes were barred completely at the present meeting by Eugene J. Atkinson, business manager of the Chicago local.

Union officials declined to comment on Louis's charges. One, who gave his name only as "Joe Blow", said negroes were not allowed in the balcony because it was filled with women, and "any gentleman would give his seat to a woman".

Sheil told the delegates that social legislation enacted in the last 12 years "only scratches the surface". He urged immediate passage of the 65 cent minimum wage, but he called the figure "substandard".

Sheil urged that labor unions seek a voice in management. He criticized congress for delay in renewing OPA.

Report N'Orleans Sifuation One Of Nation's Best

Wyatt Secures Assurance Of Good Conditions

BY JAMES L. HICKS
(NNPA Staff Writer)

WASHINGTON — (NNPA — The Building and Construction Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor has assured Wilson W. Wyatt, national housing expediter, that its unions will not discriminate against colored people in the building of houses under the national emergency housing program, it was learned last Friday.

Mr. Wyatt requested such assurance from the union heads during a conference last Wednesday in his office where union leaders agreed "t ouse every means within their power to bring about a settlement of any industrial conflict that may arise and to prevent stoppage of work on any housing construction."

Richard J. Gray, acting chairman of the executive council of the Building and Construction Trades Department, told Mr. Wyatt that each one of the unions represented had a clause in its constitution which prohibited discriminatio nbecause ot race or color. He added that one of the chief men on his staff in New Orleans was a colored man, and that working conditions between craftsmen in the building trades there were very good.

POLICY SPELLED OUT

The spelling out of the policy to be followed by the unions in the emergency housing program was in line with a statement by Wyatt made to colored newsmen during his second press conference in Washington when he promised that he would consult with labor leaders and seek to eliminate discrimination against colored workers in certain of the building trades.

Among the unions represented at the conference were the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers International Union, represented by Mr. Gray who is secretary-treasurer; William E. Maloney, general president, International Union of Operating Engineers; Robert Byron international president, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffers, Warehousemen and Helpers.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has previousiy been cited by the National Urban League as one of several building trades unions which manage to either exclude colored workers or limit the number employed of its field.

LEAGUE REPORTS TRUE

Statements to Mr. Wyatt, made by Mr. Gray on labor conditions in New Orleans, are supported by a report on colored workers in that city recently made public by the National Urban League.

The Urban League report states that colored mechanics are well represented in most of the crafts there, that there are both segregated and integrated unions in the city, and that colored people apparently do not have much difficulty working in the building industry.

The report pointed out, however, that the city has no colored plumbers or electricians and that licenses in these occupations are not available to colored people.

The AF of L's Inconsistency

The American Federation of Labor has come out for a six-hour day and a five-day week, or, 30 hours a week.

This, however, is only for special kinds of workers. Nothing is being said then, of the 8-hour day for domestics, porters and for the millions of workers who don't happen to be able to work in a mine, a factory or auto plants where workers are highly organized.

No school teacher, lawyer, doctor or preacher can operate on a six-hour-a-day basis, nor can any small business man unless he is going to put in two shifts of workers.

We wonder how the AF of L happened to decide on six hours a day; why not a five, seven, or four-hour day?

The fact of the matter is that if the rate of the daily work schedule is to be reduced, why should anybody work more than a couple of hours a day?

The AF of L program doesn't take into account realities. The younger worker is anxious to get somewhere in life. Strong and able, he might be willing to work a 9 or 10-hour day. As he gets older, the length of the work week and the number of hours in the work day should be gradually decreased.

A man who could very well work 50 hours at 20, 40 hours at 40, at 55 or 60 years of age could be reduced to a five- or six-hour day. This is the principle of permitting a man to get ahead when he is young and to taper off his work as he gets older.

The same AF of L which wants this six-hour day, unanimously approved a resolution calling a halt to anti-Catholic, anti-Semite and anti-Negro propaganda. That is fine, but when it got down to FEPC legislation, AF of L approved it but objected to that portion of the law which would make it illegal for unions to discriminate against colored people.

In other words, AF of L wants employers to stop discriminating but considers the FEPC law, which will make unions stop discriminating against colored people, entirely improper.

Another Reason Why

The Washington unit to the American Federation of Labor is unalterably opposed to the mixing of the races in the District of Columbia. It has told the United States Employment Services that if that agency moves to end race segregation in its local offices, the union will take the issue to members of the House Appropriations Committee and will seek to have the agency closed. That's a fair example of the old adage of the tail wagging the dog instead of the dog wagging the tail.

And yet who should any Negro group become suddenly worked up over the undemocratic spirit of the American Federation of Labor. That organization, unlike the Congress for Industrial Organization, has never welcomed its Negro members and in consequence, it has never done anything about the grave injustices done to Negro members in the matter of discrimination in employment and promotion. Even in the past four or five years, the changing attitude of the A. F. of L. has been due more to the fear of the progressive and democracy and liberalism of the C. I. O. rather than a change in heart. That is why today Negroes are foresaking the ranks of the A. F. of L. for the more liberal position taken by the C. I. O. in guaranteeing a fight to the finish to see that its Negro members enjoy the same privilege as all others. Everybody knows today, except the American Federation of Labor, that only inseparably tied in with that of every other worker, he will always be exploited. hard work, the united effort and unflinching loyalty of all workers—of every race, religion and national origin—standing shoulder to shoulder in their common battle against exploitation, can things be made better for all workers. And until every worker, irrespective to race and religion, comes to see that his cause and his growth are

21L 1946

A F of L

Who Cut William Green Off Air Mystifies All; Rebroadcast Planned

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

From Wire Dispatches.

Asheville, N. C., May 12.—The strange mystery of who slashed the wires and cut A.F.L. President William Green off the air still was unsolved today.

Asheville police investigated far into the night and were at it again today, but they confessed themselves puzzled. Green told a reporter, "I can't for the life of me imagine who in the world could have possibly done such a reprehensible act."

Meantime, George Googe, A.F.L. Southern representative, announced to the A.F.L. Southern Labor Conference today that a recording was made of Green's speech last night.

Googe declared that through this recording, Green's speech would be rebroadcast "over practically every radio station in this country within 48 hours." Mon 5-13-46

Googe said the deed was done by "some despicable enemy of the American Federation of Labor and of free speech in America."

The two-day meeting concluded this afternoon with discussion of a policy committee report for the organizing campaign which attacked the one-party system in the South.

Urges Activity In Primaries.

Emphasizing the responsibility of Southern workers to take part in primary elections, the report asserted that labor would make the right to vote effective all over the South "and this revolution will end rule by one party in the South.

The report also recommended that the drive concentrate on largely unorganized groups such as textiles, garment-making, lumber, chemicals, public employees, service-trade and white-collar employees.

Ralph McGill, editor of The Atlanta Constitution, in an address today, declared "The great majority of the Southern people are not hostile to organized labor. I believe the average Southerner will cheer you on if you will smash the sweatshop conditions wherever you find them."

McGill Tells Labor's Faults.

In a frank talk he told organized labor it had done "a very slipshod job" in telling its story and said the South expected "more responsible local leadership," that it hoped organized labor would eliminate jurisdictional disputes and Southern wage differentials.

"The South expects you, too, to give the Negro worker a break," McGill declared. He said he resented the "usual bugaboo of social-equality charges" and declared that this sort of argument was used to increase membership in the Ku Klux Klan. Mon 5-13-46

Branding "the social-equality" argument as "false," McGill said this was not what the Negro was asking for and that he was really asking only for "a fair, economic and educational deal with equality before the law."

"I think the thoughtful Southerner looks to organized labor to bring more industry and more jobs to the South and to see that the Negro ceases to be an economic burden on the South and all its institutions," he continued.

NO MORE JIM CROW

The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

James C. Petrillo, president, American Federation of Musicians, told 185 colored delegates in Florida that the AFM would never again meet in a jim crow town. Sat. 7-13-46

Another Blow to AFL's Jimcrow

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

—by George Morris—

ALMOST unnoticed, is the very significant news that leaders of the International Boilermakers' Union have instructed their California locals to accept Negroes to full membership. As this is written, the executive board of this union is in Denver presumably working out the terms of a surrender to the California Supreme Court.

Acting on an issue that has been fought out almost since the start of the war, California's high court declared that Jimcrow "auxiliaries" deprive Negro members of the full economic protection they are entitled to enjoy. The union is barred from collecting their dues under closed shop contracts. "Auxiliaries" were outlawed.

There remained nothing else to do but comply with the decision. The leaders of the boilermakers know well from several recent U. S. Supreme Court decisions dealing with discrimination, that they haven't a chance for a reversal. Their friends in the railroad unions were rapped in a Supreme Court decision on a similar issue. Tue. 4.16.46

We Are Due For a Change

The slow-thinking heads of the boilermakers were forced to act fast when Negroes victimized by the union's Jimcrow policy moved for compliance in court and won an injunction.

There is far greater significance in this than the justice it means for the wronged shipyard workers in California. Barring, of course, the maneuvers and tricks that the leaders of the Boilermakers will undoubtedly still try to maintain the spirit of their Jimcrow policy, they do seem to feel that their legal course is exhausted. If that is true in the **powerful Boilermakers Union, whose leadership is one of the pillars of AFL reaction, there is** good reason to expect similar developments in other AFL unions and railroad Brotherhoods where the super-race theory is the law.

It should take no more than the initiative of members in the machinists, railroad clerks, trainmen's locomotive engineers, firemen and enginemen, and other unions to bring their respective officers to their senses. The New York branch of the Railway Mail Assn. defied the national leaders and whipped them in court.

The New York locals of the Machinists told their national leaders to go to blazes and are even electing Negroes to office. The laws of New York protect them against the white "supermen" who run the Machinists. Actually, union men have the choice of complying with the law of the land (and it is the law) which requires that bars be abolished, or being partners in crime (and it is a crime) with those of their leaders who place Jimcrow above the law.

Dubinsky Is For Education

Tue 4-16-46

Incidentally, the thought of James McGowan the pompous blusterer who heads the Boilermakers, reminds me of the New Orleans 1944 AFL convention. It was when A. Philip Randolph of the Pullman Porters made his annual speech against Jimcrow bars that McGowan exploded with oratorical rage because it was suggested that his union isn't very brotherly. He then spoke with the arrogance of a slave-owner who never dreamed that a Civil War would ever come. He'll change his tune now.

But I am reminded of another shameful incident immediately after McGowan cracked the whip. Rising from the midst of a group of delegates seated around David Dubinsky, Tuvim of the ILGWU told the convention that his union, too, opposes the resolution of the Pullman Porters calling for action against membership exclusion and Jimcrow policies, because the problem is only one of "education."

I looked around the convention hall, and eyed some of the gentlemen who were heads of their unions for as many as 52 years but as yet hadn't completed their "education" on the Negro problem. And I also thought of Dubinsky's own union where constitutionally there are no Negro bars. But in that union there is a "progressive" Social Democratic way of keeping the Negro in "his place." Perish the thought that a Negro should get any closer to the ILGWU's 24-man executive board than the maid who cleans up after it. Nor, apparently, is a Negro fit to head a local or joint board or to even be a business agent, according to ILGWU racial theories. Tue. 4-16-46

Oh, beg pardon! Frank Crosswaith is still on Dubinsky's payroll as an "organizer," always to be displayed as evidence that the ILGWU is a "broadminded" union. After more than 40 years of history it is time the ILGWU's leaders stopped kidding the world. If a Negro is fit to be secertary of the National Maritime Union, why isn't a Negro fit to be secretary of Dubinsky's ILGWU? How many more decades must pass before a Negro can really rate confidence in the ILGWU?

Bow To Courts' Decrees

To Disestablish Race Segregated Auxiliaries

Journal-Guide

OAKLAND, Cal. — (ANP)—The Boilermakers Union of this state last week through a dramatic resolution granted equal membership status to Negro shipyard workers, thereby bringing to a victorious finish a costly struggle against the powerful union that began during the war. Disestablishment of all Negro auxiliaries of the union in California will follow the action. Sat. 6-1-46

SUIT FILED

A suit was filed, under the leadership of Al Brown, against the company and union restraining them from collecting dues from Negroes and voiding the "closed shop" contract to discriminating unions. The Superior Court of San Francisco granted permanent restraining orders in both cases and the Negro workers returned to their jobs. Norfolk-Va.

The unions dispatched Negro workers with special clearances and refused to accept their money for membership in the regular locals following the Superior Court's action. Adoption of the anti-bias resolution has been interpreted here as a sweeping victory for Negro workers and a forward step for the Boilermakers union. More than 15,000 Negroes are affected by the union's change of membership policy. 6-1-46 Sat

Thurgood Marshall, NAACP chief counsel, discussing the action taken by the Boilermakers, stated:

"It is to be regretted that the Boilermakers' Union had to be forced to take the action, and in all fairness the resolutions should apply to all locals instead of being restricted to California. However, since the Boilermakers' Union will only act after being forced to act, Negro workers in industry should bring legal action in all states where the Boilermakers' Union has jurisdiction and compel them to take the same action they took in California."

MARSHALL COMMENTS

Information on the union's sudden about-face policy regarding Negro workers was contained in a letter from the union's president to Ray Thompson, chairman of the Shipyard Workers' Committee Against Discrimination, which stated clearly that all "locals of the Boilermakers' Union in California shall admit Negroes as full members, with no reservations" and that "all auxiliary locals in California shall be suspended."

MARKED CLIMAX

The letter marked a climax to a fight which began in the spring of 1942, when a group of workers, headed by Thompson made formal protest to the Ship Fitters local of San Francisco regarding their policy of excluding Negroes. Joined by the Bay Area Council Against Discrimination. Thompson's group enlisted the aid of white workers in petitioning the international union for a fair policy toward the minority worker.

"I can feel only as one who has helped in a struggle which was for a just cause," commented Thompson in reply to a question as to how he felt by learning of the union's action. "Our organization has spent more than $3,000 in this struggle and this money has come from the workers themselves. All of us have suffered, so it seems fitting that all feel happy over the victory."

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STARTS LEGAL FIGHT

Five years ago, the Marine Ship Workers, an all-Negro organization, spearheaded the first legal battle for admittance to the all-white Boilermakers Union under the leadership of Joseph James of San Francisco's NAACP. The Marine ship workers carried the fight to the California Supreme Court and won a favorable decision by declaring the "closed shop" invalid where discrimination was practiced. Auxiliary locals were ruled illegal.

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AFL claims one million Negroes

CHICAGO—About one million Negroes belong to the American Federation of Labor, accounting for 1-17th of its membership, according to AFL president William Green.

Green made this claim during an address before the fifth biennial convention of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters here last week, adding that the union has reduced "certain discriminatory practices" by "a very few" AFL affiliates which he did not name.

Reviewing the membership campaign begun by AFL in the south as soon as the CIO opened its drive there, Green said AFL had enlisted 150,000 new southern members during the last three months and would surely reach its goal of one million new members this year.

"The workers of the south are rallying to our call and flocking to our banner", he said. "We are welcoming Negro workers." He also pledged AFL support for fair employment and polltax legislation and warned the 1,200 delegates against communism, asserting that Communists "regard Negroes as candidates for front line positions" in fomenting a revolution.

Calif. Boilermakers Admit Defeat, Abolish JC Setup

NEW YORK—As a result of legal action against the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, the executive committee of the union has adopted a resolution abolishing auxiliary lodges in California.

The resolution specifically calls for the admission of colored workers to regular locals in California "upon the exact terms, conditions and privileges as are held, enjoyed and possessed by non-colored workers."

The union's action came as a result of a series of suits filed by the NAACP in California and Rhode Island.

Explaining its action, the committee pointed out that as a result of rulings by the State Supreme Court "the Brotherhood could not 'continue to maintain a closed union and a closed shop.'"

Moreover, it admitted that if the union had not agreed to abolish the jim-crow locals, "Our employers would be required to cancel and forfeit the union shop provisions of all of our agreements in the State of California."

Similar Action Urged

Discussing the action taken by the Boilermakers, Thurgood Marshall, NAACP chief counsel, stated:

"It is to be regretted that the Boilermakers' Union had to be forced to take the action, and in all fairness the resolutions should apply to all locals instead of being restricted to California.

"However, since the union will act only after being forced to act, colored workers in industry should bring legal action in all States where the Boilermakers' Union has jurisdiction and compel them to take the same action they took in California."

Delegates To Labor Convention Hear AFL Against Discrimination

NORFOLK — Delegates from several Negro locals attending the 50th annual convention of the Virginia State Federation of Labor which opened a three-day session here at the Center Theater on Monday heard white AFL leaders assert that the American Federation of Labor does not condone discrimination against workers because of race or creed, at a pre-convention meeting Sunday night at the ILA hall on Wide street.

David Alston, an official of the Longshoremen's union and only full time Negro organizer for the AFL, in Virginia, presided. He explained that the meeting was called to formulate plans for united action on convention matters by the Negro delegates. He also presented the speakers.

Paul J. Smith, regional director for the AFL in Virginia, who was the main speaker, warned the delegates against the CIO and other organizations claiming to represent the interests of the workers. He also asserted that the captains of industry seek to keep white and Negro workers divided playing "both ends against the middle."

AFL LOYAL

The speaker said that "the American Federation of Labor has always been . . . a loyal American institution," but he compared the CIO to Fascist and Nazi organizations in Europe. Any kind of dictatorship, he said is wrong. He criticized Senator Byrd for what he termed the Senator's opposition to organized labor adding that though Virginia has only one senator he is equal to six in his activities against labor.

Others who brought greetings to the delegates were Geoorge W. Millner, vice president of the ILA; J. S. Smith, president of the Virginia State Federation of Labor; J. R. Miller of the AFL staff, Tom O'Brien, representative of the Teamster's Union, and I. C. Welsted, secretary-treasurer of the Virginia State Federation of Labor. John Hargrove, OPA representative from Washington, D. C., was presented to the delegates.

The State federation president asserted that Virginia in placing four Negroes on the executive board and a Negro on every committee of the organization is giving Negroes more representation in the state body than any other state in the nation.

MENTIONS PROGRESS

Mr. O'Brien told of the efforts to organize the teamsters. He and other speakers mentioned the progress that has been made in Virginia since 1919 when Negro labor first entered the state organization with only six delegates. The increase of that number to 110 at the 1946 convention was credited to the work of Mr. Alston, Mr. Millner and others.

Mr. O'Brien scored those workers whose claim that the present-day wage increases and better working conditions were brought about solely by the Federal government. He said that it was the work of organized labor that brought about these results for the benefit of the working man.

Secretary-treasurer Welsted declared that "we want honest true democracy" in Virginia. He added that Virginia labor is opposed to Senator Byrd because he is against labor and the FEPC.

The delegates voted to support the present administration for re-election to the state organization including the four Negro members of the executive board. There was some question, however, as to the eligibility of W. St. Elmo Reede, Richmond member of the board, to run for re-election since he was not originally elected a delegate from his local but was later elected only after the vice president resigned and recommended him as his substitute.

NEGRO BOARD MEMBERS

Negro members of the executive board up for re-election were David Alston, Norfolk; McDonald Powell, Petersburg, W. St. Elmo Reed, Richmond, and William Gray, Washington, D. C. The Richmond delegates decided to support Andrew J. Monroe, of Richmond for Mr. Reede's place on the executive board in case he was disqualified to run.

A committee consisting of one member from each locality represented by delegates was selected to attend the caucus on Tuesday night for board members.

Local 432 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters Union of Richmond presented two resolutions which the delegates approved for presentation to the convention protesting failure of the government to use any Negro meat inspectors among the staff and asking that Negroes be considered for such work and one protesting the treatment of Negroes in connection with the riots in Columbia, Tenn., on February 25 and urging that proper steps be taken to punish the offenders.

ASKS SUPPORT

Mr. Alston asked support for amendments changing the compensation benefits for illness or accidents and death for workers in Senate bill 2051. He said that original provisions of the measure are no longer up to standard and should be changed in the interest of the workers granting more compensations. E. T. Harris of Richmond was elected chairman of the steering committee.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. L. E. Massey who also offered the benediction.

At the opening session at the Center Theatre at 10 a.m. Monday welcome addresses were made by Mayor J. W. Reed of Norfolk, David Alston, E. L. King, President, Norfolk Central Labor Union, Frank P. Fenton, AFL director of organization, delivered the address for the session.

SPEAKERS ON MONDAY

James M. Myles, vice president, Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers International Association; Paul J. Smith, regional director, AFL; Arnold Zanders, president, State, County and Municipal Employees, and J. Fulmer Bright, district OPA director, Richmond, were scheduled to address the convention at the 2 p. m. session Monday.

The sessions on Tuesday were devoted to reports and plans for original work in Virginia among unorganized labor. A meeting was also scheduled for Thursday at 10 a. m. for further consideration of organizational plans in the state.

A banquet was held at 8 p. m. at the Eureka Hall for the Negro delegates. At 9 p.m., music was furnished by Ben Jones and his orchestra. Open house was held at the Greater Norfolk Lodge of Elks at 9 p. m. for delegates.

Non-White AFL Officers Re-elected, Beat Bias

NORFOLK, Va. (ANP) — Dixie prejudice delayed the opening of the executive board session of the Virginia State Federation of Labor at Monticello Hotel here Saturday night because colored members started to enter the hotel from the front.

A bellhop told the colored members they were not permitted to use the front elevator reserved for white guests.

Protest Fruitful

The three members, David Alston of Norfolk, William Gray of Washington, and McDonald Powell of Petersburg were forced to organization controlled by the phone I. C. Welsted, secretary-Communists.

meeting on the guest elevator. The jim-crow effort delayed the meeting for more than half an hour.

Warned on CIO

The three-day convention of the federation opened Monday with 412 delegates, of whom 110 were colored.

At the pre-convention session for colored delegates Sunday night, J. S. Smith, who was re-elected president; and other white speakers warned against the propaganda of the CIO.

One speaker said the AFL was a loyal American institution and

NEGROES AT GOLDSBORO ELECT PLANT OFFICER

Goldsboro, July 28.—Negro workers at the Atlas Plywood Company plant in Goldsboro have elected officers. They number about 50.

White workers at the plant, who will set up their separate local will meet in the next few days to elect officers.

Chosen were: president, Junius Herring; vice-president, Sylvester Cole; financial secretary, Sara Jane Edwards; treasurer, Elbert Hoffman; and recording secretary, Mrs. Hicks.

21L 1946

AF of L

~~Boilermakers Blocked~~

AF of L UNIT DENIED RIGHT TO BAR RACE

2-9-46

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Outlawing any special "auxiliary" locals for colored workers and ordering that Negro union members must be given full membership in the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, the California State Supreme Court sounded the death knell for "second-class" union memberships here Tuesday.

In arriving at this momentous decision, the State court reversed a San Francisco County Superior Court decision and an Alameda County Superior Court decision wherein the Boilermakers of the AFL was permitted to bar Negroes from full membership.

The opinions which declared that the "arbitrarily closed union should not exist with a closed shop" and "**the union has the duty to represent employes,**" were in the cases **of Raymond Thompson, employed by Moore Drydock Company, and** Wilbert Williams, representing some 2,000 Negro employes at Permanente Metals Corporation and the Kaiser Company, Inc. Both actions were started in 1943.

Thompson sought to restrain Moore Drydock Company from assisting the union in barring Negro workers.

CLAIMED DISCRIMINATION

Contending that Negroes were being discriminated against by being required to join an "auxiliary" union, and being denied voting and other privileges, Williams brought action against the International Boilermakers Union.

In its decision, the court added that the union had assumed sovereignty to which it was not entitled. In this, the "union's anti-social monopoly is fostered on the industrial body politic," the court ruled.

AN AFL DRIVE in the South has already hit Mississippi, Texas and Louisiana, according to a statement here last week by Cornelius Maiden, veteran organizer.

Maiden was recently named on the advisory board of the Southern organizing drive for AFL, headed by George L. Goode, of Atlanta. A scheduled itinerary will take him to 15 states, including a visit to Arizona and Southern California. He will also represent William Green, AFL National president, at the Nation Baptist Convention in Chicago this week.

AFL Backs Truman on Price Rule, FEPC and His Social Security Plan

By HAROLD B. HINTON

Special to The New York Times

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 23—Support of President Truman's recommendation to Congress on the continuance of price control, fair employment practices, and social security was voted today by the executive council of the American Federation of Labor. William Green, Federation president, was instructed to tell members of Congress the views of the council on these subjects.

The council emphasized, in a statement issued after its meeting, that approval of continuing price control for another year was given only as an emergency step, taken in view of its belief that "conditions are ripe for another economic spree." Holding that "the flush of false prosperity can be detected not only in Wall Street, but in every grocery store in the nation," the council declared that "it would be suicidal for our Government to drop price controls on June 30, when the present law expires."

The statement urged that "action be taken promptly because uncertainty as to future policy already is slowing down production because of the reluctance of business to make advance commitments in the dark."

"Let it be clearly understood, however, that the American Federation of Labor regards price control as a necessary evil," the statement continued. "In normal times we would vigorously oppose any such Government interference with a free economy.

1-24-46

Caution on Controls Urged

"Even now, controls should be exercised cautiously and selectively. The moment production of any particular article comes within safe range of meeting the demand for it, the Office of Price Administration should remove its artificial ceilings and allow natural competitive forces to bring the selling price down to its natural level."

The council conceded that there was a connection between price controls and wage controls, although its deliberatins of last Monday resulted in a statement denouncing any governmental interference, through fact-finding boards, cooling-off periods, or other agencies, with the free play of collective bargaining in determining wage levels.

"The impression seems to be that the Government has dropped wage controls," today's statement said. "This is not the case. The Government policy, administered by the new wage stabilization board, forbids the granting of wage increase which would be used as the basis for an employer's demand for higher price ceiling. Departures from this rule will be made in exceptional hardship cases."

Truman Proposals Commended

The council entered into no detailel discussion of President Truman's recommendations, in his message to Congress, on the subjects of social security and fair employment practices, but it instruct Mr. Green to tell members of Congress that the council found the Chief Executive's proposals "commendable."

Questioned further about his references of yesterday to alleged Communist leanings of some CIO leaders, Mr. Green would only say:

"There are no Communists on our council, so far as we know, or anybody with Communist leanings."

The federation's policy of relations with Latin-American labor organizations would be discussed, Mr. Green said, at a series of conferences between the council and a committee from the Cuban Federation of Labor.

1-24-46

It was the policy of the AFL, Mr. Green explained, to invite the cooperation of all Latin-American labor groups which accepted the philosophy of the American Federation. This policy rules out formal relations with the Latin-American Confederation of Labor, which Mr. Green describes as "the Toledano movement" and characterizes as political in character, not economic.

"We want to divorce labor from politics," Mr. Green said.

The AFL council saw no solution for some time to come, Mr. Green told newspaper men, in the jurisdictional conflict between the International Association of Machinists and the Carpenters Union over work involving the installation of some kinds of machinery. This dispute led Harvey W. Brown, president of the machinists, to refuse to pay per capita dues for his union to the federation, causing its suspension for the second time last November.

Whites Quit Shipyard Over Racial Issue

Chicago Defender

Sat 3-30-46

AFL Union Insists On Layoffs Of Crane Operators

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

PASCAGOULA, Miss. — The race question was the main issue as a strike of 51 white crane operators brought idleness to 3000 workers at the huge Ingalls' shipbuilding plant here last Monday.

Pending arrival of an international representative of the (AFL) Operating Engineers and settlement of the walkout, an additional 2,000 employees may be laid off during the week, thereby forcing a complete shutdown of the Pascagoula yard.

W. R. Guest, executive vice president of the company, told the Defender Saturday evening that no accord had been reached between the Ingalls shipyard management and Pascagoula Local 625 of the Operating Engineers, and that work would be immediately stopped on 10 of the 14 ships now under construction at the yard. He said that the vessels are being built for the U. S. Maritime Commission and the U. S. Army.

The plant official stated that the controversy partially involves the continued employment of 12 Negro crane operators on certain overhead jobs while several white cranemen were temporarily laid off because there was no steel available in their section of the yard. The recent steel strike was held responsible for the situation.

Negroes Not Called Out

Although the white and Negro Crane operators are members of the Pascagoula local, C. W. Earl, business manager of the unit, is said to have called the strike to force several of the colored men off their jobs and to have white operators replace them. The union official did not call the Negroes out when the whites were told to quit work.

Earl refused to give a statement to the Negro press. However, he is quoted as having said that the union turned down a company offer to replace two colored operators by two white operators formerly employed by the company "while the colored men take a one-week vacation."

The union representative is said to have asserted: "We find that we are not justified in relieving the Negro operators to take a vacation."

Guest said the company had offered to put the two white men in question to work indefinitely while negotiations on the dispute were in progress. Places could be made for them temporarily by having two colored operators take vacations.

Earl said the union demand work for at least three of the 1[illegible] white operators laid off. He contended that some of the white men have three years' seniority while Negro operators now employed have only six months to a year of service. He added: "We are not asking that any Negro with proper seniority be taken off the job."

In Different Jobs

Negroes have been operating overhead cranes since the yard opened six years ago. With three exceptions, white crane operators were assigned to the big Gantry and locomotive cranes at higher wage scales than received by the Negro operators. Guest said that he felt it would be unfair and discriminatory to pull the colored men off their jobs to make employment for some of the whites who were temporarily laid off because of material shortages in their sections of the yard.

The company executive said further that only three white crane operators of the many in the yard worked on cranes similar to those operated by Negroes. He said in such instances the hourly pay scale was the same as that of the colored workers. It was admitted that no Negroes operate Gantry or locomotive cranes.

Guest was asked if government agencies in Washington had been notified of the strike. He said that the Maritime Commission and the president's office of the International Union of Operating Engineers were told. When questioned as to whether the FEPC had been invited to study the race issue raised, he said that he did not think it was necessary to call in the fair employment agency.

It is believed that his coolness toward the FEPC may be attributed to the widespread discrimination against Negroes at the Ingalls' Pascagoula yard. Negro painters and crane operators were the highest classified workers of the group employed there two years ago.

No improvement in the status of colored workers has been reported since that time.

Four of the Negro crane operators were among those laid off Monday. Guest said that work had been shut down in all shops where material cannot be handled by hand.

BOILERMAKERS' BAN LIFTED

Pittsburgh Courier

OAKLAND, Calif.—Superior **Judge Ezra Decoto last week is**sued an injunction outlawing prac**tices of discrimination by the AFL Boilermakers Union and the Moore Drydock Company.**

The injunction, which is in line **with a previous ruling by the California Supreme Court,** orders **Boilermakers officials to accept Negro workers into full membership on the same conditions as white workers.**

Justice Decoto's ruling makes it illegal for Boilermakers Union heads to compel Negro workers to join or pay dues to jim-crow "auxiliary" local unions; to compel the company to discharge or refuse to employ Negroes who do not join "auxiliaries;" to refuse to give job or work clearances to Negro workers.

The injunction orders the company to employ Negro workers without regard to the closed shop.

Machinists' Union Cleared of Bias Charges by SCAD

Afro American Sat 4-6-46

NEW YORK — The International Association of Machinists, District No. 15, AFL, which has between 150 to 200 colored members, has been cleared of charges of discrimination on the grounds of color in New York State Commission Against Discrimination informed the AFRO on Monday.

The SCAD began an investigation on Dec 11, 1945, of labor unions in which discriminatory practices were reputed to be in force, including those which enforced a color bar in their by-laws, colored auxiliary locals, and excluded colored by unwritten rules.

While this investigation was in progress, the commission received a letter from Roger Baldwin, director, American Civil Liberties Union, advising that he had been informed that the machinists' union in the Cutler Hammer Co. was granted a union shop contract.

District 15 Ignore Ban

Mr. Baldwin pointed out that the union was reputed to exclude all colored, that the contract was illegal, and asked for an investigation by the SCAD. This was granted by Henry C. Turner, Commission chairman, and Commission Julian J. Reiss was given the assignment.

Rule IAM Here Not Guilty of Bias

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Charges that District 15 of the International Assn. of Machinists, AFL, did not permit Negro members were dismissed today, according to an announcement by the State Commission Against Discrimination, 124 E. 28th St. An investigation headed by Commissioner Julian J. Reiss reported that it had found that District 15 had between 150 and 200 Negro members.

On Dec. 11, 1945, the State Commission Against Discrimination began an investigation of labor unions in which discriminatory practices were reputed to be in force. These included unions which exclude Negroes by a color bar in their by-laws; unions which habitually exclude Negroes by practices based on unwritten rules, and unions which confine Negroes in auxiliary locals.

The commission probed a report of IAM bias after the New York State Board of Mediation had granted a union shop contract to the International Order of Machinists in the Cutler Hammer Co.

The commission found that, while there was no explicit statement of restriction of membership on the basis of race, color, creed or national origin in the constitution of the International Assn. of Machinists, there was, however, a section of the Grand Lodge ritual which provided for white membership only.

Commissioner Reiss was informed that efforts to eliminate this exclusive section in the ritual had been made for a number of years during the national convention of the union and that every year the margin of defeat grew smaller. Liberal elements in the union hoped for the elimination of the section at the next convention. *Tues 4-2-46*

However, despite the ritual, the investigation developed that District 15, composed of a number of locals, as well as other districts in the state, were completely disregarding this provision. Furthermore, it was brought out that at least two members of the District Council, the ruling body, were Negroes and that Negroes were serving as elected officers on shop committees and on other active committees within the local lodges.

AFL President Spends 15 Minutes Shouting Into Dead Microphone

Birmingham, Ala News Mon 5-13-46

BY MAX HALL

Associated Press Labor Reporter

ASHEVILLE, N. C., May 13—(AP)—Southern AFL leaders set out today to destroy the one-party system in the South, but the one party that interested them immediately was the party who cut William Green off the air.

The great wire-slashing mystery—the puzzle of the "dead" NBC microphone into which the AFL president shouted strenuously for 15 minutes Saturday night—produced these new developments:

1. An Asheville AFL leader, who asked to remain unidentified, offered a $100 reward for capture of the wire-slasher.

* * *

2. ASHEVILLE POLICE were trying to locate all the electricians who had anything to do with installing the wires, to discover whether they saw any suspicious characters in the basement of the City Auditorium, where the slashing occurred.

3. Police Chief C. W. Dermid told a reporter: "We have nothing on which to proceed. The auditorium was full of people. There were no restrictions on where they should go. That makes it virtually impossible for us to make an identification of the persons responsible."

The AFL's Southern labor conference, which ended yesterday, endorsed Negro voting in the South.

It approved a policy statement saying, "Organized labor will make this right to vote effective in all Southern states and this revolution will end rule by one party in the South." *Mon 5-13-46*

THE STATEMENT declared that "the two-or-more party system is the only wholesome condition for the development of democratic practices." (Negroes are voting in some Southern state primaries this year for the first time).

The 2,000 delegates from 12 states came to this mountain city with the purpose of opening the AFL's Southern organizing drive.

The meeting will be remembered in labor history, however, for the speech that didn't get broadcast—but which will be broadcast anyhow, applause and all, because the AFL made a recording. The radio station over which the rebroadcasting will be done, and the time, had not been definitely decided today.

AFL IN SOUTH HEARS A PLEA FOR NEGRO

'Give Him a Break' in Jobs, McGill, Editor of Atlanta, Urges Asheville Parley

HITS AT 'SOCIAL EQUALITY'

New York Times, N.Y.

Reilly of the NLRB Warns of Closed-Shop Foes—Report Hits 'One-Party Rule'

Mon 5-13-46

By LOUIS STARK

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 12—Ralph McGill, editor of The Atlanta Constitution, addressing the third biennial Southern Labor Conference of the American Federation of Labor, declared today that "the great majority of the Southern people are not hostile to organized labor."

In a frank talk, he told organized labor that it had done "a very slipshod job" in telling its story, and then outlined what he felt the South expected of organized labor.

George L. Googe of Atlanta, who presided, referred to the vandalism perpetrated last evening when someone cut the wires that were to have transmitted President William Green's address over a country-wide hookup. He declared that the act was done "by some despicable enemy of the AFL and of free speech." He explained that a master record of Mr. Green's remarks had been made and would be broadcast within forty-eight hours.

McGill Asks Responsibility

Mr. McGill said in his address that the South expected "more responsible local leadership," that it hoped organized labor would set up machinery to eliminate jurisdictioinal disputes, and expected organized labor to eliminate Southern wage differentials, which he termed "one of the curses of the South." *Mon 5-13-46*

"The South expects you, too, to give the Negro worker a break," declared the Georgia editor to the applause of the delegates.

In this connection, he rejected the bugaboo of "social equality" and declared that this sort of argument was used to increase membership in the Ku Klux Klan.

Mr. McGill said that the Negro was asking only for "a fair, economic and educational deal, with equality before the law."

"I think the thoughtful southerner looks to organized labor to bring more industry and more jobs to the South and to see that the Negro ceases to be an economic burden on the South and all its institutions," he continued.

The public, said Mr. McGill, "has a right to expect more responsibility and understanding of the mutual problem of each side in negotiations." He added that the South expected "a greater responsibility from unions in public utilities."

While he advocated fighting communism and subversive influences generally, Mr. McGill said that "careless use of charges of communism" did no one any good.

Reilly Warns of Hard Test

Gerard D. Reilly, member of the National Labor Relations Board, said in an address that employers having the best labor relations today "are those who are completely and scrupulously keeping their hands off the union activities of their employes."

"That has been proved by the thousands of employers who have begun to do it within the last several years and have succeeded," he said.

Despite what he called great progress in collective bargaining because of the Wagner Act, Mr. Reilly asserted that in some industrial areas "the battle" against labor organizations was still being fought.

"You know as well as I do that the process of converting the theory of collective bargaining into industrial practice is far from complete, that the law of the land has yet to become the law of thousands of our industrial plant. As I see it, in the very near future the acceptance and practices of collective bargaining in certain areas may well be put to as severe test as any one of our other institutions have had to face. Let us not forget what happened after World War I when the 'open shop' plan swept certain areas and left a wake of disrupted unionism."

The two-day meeting ended this afternoon with brief addresses by President Green and George Meany, secretary of the AFL, who predicted that in the next year the federation would add a million members to its rolls in the south. Mr. Green reiterated at a news conference today the AFL's full measure of dispute support" of John L. Lewis in the coal.

Addresses were made also by John Connors, executive secretary of the Workers Educational Bureau, and D. G. Garland of Winston-Salem, N. C., a Negro organizer for the AFL. *Mon 5-13-46*

The final business of the meeting was a discussion of a policy committee report for the coming campaign.

AFL now one big happy family; no more auxiliary locals

Tribune, Los Angeles, Cal.

Action by the AFL Boilermakers union abolishing "auxiliary" locals for Negroes and granting Negroes full membership and rights in the international union was announced this week, and court actions against the union were immediately dropped. *5-25-46*

This final move of the AFL union, the culmination of many years' determined opposition, was greeted enthusiastically by AFL union officials here.

The resolution was adopted some time ago by the executive board of the union, but just this week was brought into full play in California as AFL attorneys Charles Janigian and Arthur Garrett completed stipulations which vacated court judgments recently obtained in this state. *5-25-46*

The action and stipulations, the attorneys stated, mean that the AFL boilermakers have abolished segregation and accorded Negroes full and equal rights in every respect. *Sat*

Negroes, now employed as boilermakers and members of auxiliary unions, will automatically be accepted into regular lodges, attorney Garrett pointed out.

The resolution, signed by union president Charles J. MacGowan decreed that "each lodge must admit Negro workers to full and equal membership upon the exact terms and conditions and privileges as non-Negro workers," and that, "each and all auxiliary locals in California must be disestablished." *Sat*

Blowup in Coast Local Laid to Biased Whites

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American

SAN FRANCISCO—(ANP)—Four hundred musicians, "subsidiary" members of white Local 6 here, were assured last week by James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, that they will be granted a charter to organize their own local following a recent racial blowup in the white local.

Latest explosion on the race issue within Local 6 came when a white musician was denied the right to sit in on a recording session with colored musicians, which served to explode their resentment against the local's undemocratic and anti-colored rules and regulations.

Musicians here always belonged to a "subsidiary" of the white local, although such a membership status in the union was outlawed in 1943 during the convention that year. *Sat.*

The "subsidiary" here and the one in Dallas are the last two in existence in the country. The new local has already named Al Forbes as business manager and the 400 musicians will withdraw about $13,000 they have paid in dues and fees to Local 6. *4-27-46*

Their charter will give them the same jurisdiction within the framework of the American Federation of Musicians, AFL, as the white local enjoys.

AFL Endorses Negro Voting In Dixie Drive

Citizen (?) ... [illegible] *5-25-46*

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—Negro voting in Dixie was endorsed this week by the American Federation of Labor's Southern conference which inaugurated its drive to organize labor and a two party system in the South.

Approval of the endorsement was issued in the union's policy statement which said:

"Organized labor will make this right to vote effective in all Southern states, and this revolution will end rule by one party in the South."

The statement also declared "the two party system is the only wholesome condition for the development of democratic practices."

While Southern 'AFL leaders were setting out to smash Dixie's one-party system, Asheville police were investigating the cause of President William E. Green's interrupted radio broadcast. Green's speech in the City Auditorium was kept off the air when the transmitting wires were cut. All electricians who had anything to do with installing the wires were questioned. However, recording of Green's speech was made, said George Googe, AFL Southern representative. "It will be broadcast over practically every radio station in this country within 48 hours," he declared.

21 L 1946

Petrillo Refuses To 'Sell Out' Negro Delegates

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 6-15-46

By LEON LEWIS, Courier Correspondent

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—(Special)—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, was the target for Southern race baiters this week following his widely publicized decision in cancelling a sight-seeing tour of delegates to the Forty-ninth annual convention of the organization because of discrimination against Negro members of the convention.

Petrillo not only stood his ground in this fight against Southern custom but emphasized his intention to test the strength of the Lea Bill, which he claims is a violation of the right to Americans to "practice democracy."

Cancellation of a bus tour of St. Petersburg and gulf beaches, planned for last Tuesday as part of entertainment for delegates brought a variety of statements from union officials and comments from persons of note.

CAESAR STEPS IN

James Petrillo, president of the AFM, said the tour was cancelled when it was learned that Forty-nine Negro delegates attending the convention would not be permitted to accompany white delegates to some of the places to be visited. Sat. 6-15-46

Petrillo said, "If the colored members are not good enough to go where the rest of us go, none of us will go. There is no color line in our organization."

A sign posted on the Soreno Hotel, convention headquarters, announced simply: "No bus ride today—by order of the executive board."

White employes of one of the restaurants, where the delegates were to have dinner, said they would refuse to serve Negroes. Bill Williams' on Treasure Island, and the Penquin Club on Sunset Beach were the places listed on the tour program. Both denied knowledge of the report.

Officials of the Carl Gresh Parade and Sunken gardens, also on the tour list, said Negro delegates would have been welcome at their places. A union official was reported to have said the Union Bus Company was supposed to have furnished twenty-five buses for the occasion had drawn the "color line" on use of the buses. A. L. Childs, manager for the local Greyhound, declared that statement was "ridiculous."

"The musicians chartered twenty-five buses and they were ready, with drivers at 9:30 A. M.," Childs said. "The buses were at the disposal of the federation and no mention was made of who was to ride on them. It makes no difference to the lines, to myself or the drivers whether Negroes or whites ride in a chartered bus."

Negro delegates attending the convention were as follows: Theodore Scott, Dallas, Tex.; Harry Gray, Chicago; Charles Exum, Monroe, Wisc.; Mrs. Florence Tibbals, Toledo, Ohio; Frank Fairfax, George Hyder and Harry Marsh, Philadelphia; Velmer Mason, Toledo; Harvey Hussey, A. H. Davis, Hartford, Conn.; P. S. Cooke, Atlanta, Ga.; S. S. Melendez, Pittsburgh, Pa.; William Young, Dayton, Ohio; Howard Davis, William Houston, New Orleans, La.; Raymond Jackson, Lloyd B. Gish, Buffalo, N. Y.; Clemon Jackson, Boston; Buddy Johnson, Bernard Mason, Squire Williams, Baltimore, Md.; Jacob Porter, Bridgeport, Conn.; William Sympson, Cleveland, Ohio; Charles Williamson, Omaha, Nebr.; William Allen, Columbus, Ohio; Al Jenkins, Gary, Ind.; Calvin Shields, Jacksonville, Fla.; J. E. Morton, Louisville; Jack White, Wilmington, Del.; A. V. Forbes, Ernest Lewis, San Francisco, Calif.; Joshua Douglas, Springfield, Ill.; William Bailey, Washington, D. C.; John Whaley, Birmingham, Ala.; Edward W. Bailey, Mrs. Florence Catrez, Paul Howard, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Bernice Boone, Fort Wayne, Ind., and Artie Matthews, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Kate Smith Denounces Bias

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—"There can be no permanent victory or lasting peace until each individual respects the rights of every other human being without prejudice as to race, color or religious belief," Kate Smith, radio singer, said here Tuesday night. She was the principal speaker at the annual Fellowship Parents Night, sponsored by the Fellowship House of Philadelphia, and held at the Fleisher Vocational School.

AFL

Disavowal Of Negroes By AFL Leader May Cost $1,000,000

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-29-46

NEW YORK — Negro longshoremen here stand a good chance of losing their $1,000,000 back pay suit against two large stevedoring companies as the result of Joseph P. Ryan's denouncement of them as "not particularly wanted in his AFL International Longshoremen's association.

Appearing before U. S. District Judge Rifkind Friday the ILA boss, often referred to as a dictator, dragged "race" into the court battle when he said "the suit didn't have his union's backing and that most of the men involved were Negroes who didn't belong to ILA. Max Simon, co-counsel for the longshoremen, refuted this statement and said that many of those seeking to recover alleged unpaid overtime wages had been ILA members for years.

20 Plaintiffs

Pending in court since last year the suit was brought against the Huron Stevedoring Co., and the Bay Ridge Operating Co. Representing more than 400 longshoremen, of whom 20 are plaintiffs, Simon said that the charges are that the men worked during the war from 66 to 70 hours a week without receiving time and a half as provided in the Wages and Hours Act.

Also involved in the case is the United States government, due to the fact that much of the work performed was for them during the war years. If the companies lost the case, the government would have to shell out money to the workers also.

Taking the stand the burly labor chieftain said that the ILA Atlantic Coast District executive board had opposed the suit. The reasons they offered was that it would kill the gains they had made in the last 25 years.

Ryan Brags

Then with an air of a braggart Ryan said that Negroes had been encouraged to come on the waterfront during the war when "many of his white longshoremen went to war. And to show his appreciation for them taking the jobs he didn't even charge them a penny dues."

When asked why his benevolent attitude he replied that when the war was over, he would have to tell them to leave.

Ryan has been under fire by many city organizations seeking to oust him from his undemocratic hold on the ILA, which has more than 30,000 members. Charges have long been aired that he bars Negroes from membership. When one does get in a Jim Crow local he must accept the menial jobs offered on the waterfront.

Anti-OPA Speech, Opposition To FEPC Mark AFL Convention

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-19-46

With President William F. Green speaking out against government price control and looming opposition to a federal FEPC, the American Federation of Labor, meeting here in national convention this week appeared to following and enlarging its traditional conservative pattern.

The convention, which represents 7,000,000 workers of whom at least 1,000,000 are Negroes, opened last week with 600 delegates present, only about 20 of them Negro.

Though yet to be acted upon are resolutions favoring federal fair employment legislation, abolishment of poll tax, federal anti-lynching laws and continuation of OPA, Green, in his address opening the confab, asked for an end of "governmental control of our economic life," and declared that "we . . . stand steadfast and immovable against Communism."

Opposes FEPC Law

The council while endorsing the principle of fair employment, went on record as opposing "the imposition of any policy . . . through compulsory governmment control."

On the matter of immigration, the council reiterated its support of selective immigration especially in regard to the so-called "barred races who cannot be assimiliated."

There was no indication on the other hand that the federation would even consider adoption of a policy that would require its affiliated internationals to drop existing provisions denying membership to members of certain minority groups.

This failure of the AFL to take such action seemed to be drawing little if any criticism from the Negro delegates and vistors to the convention.

Turn Down WFTU

The fact that some of the internationals have indicated support of such federal regulatory agencies as OPA, suggested that Green, in his address, was not expressing the unanimous attitude of all AFL unions.

Another not surprising action by the conference was its refusal, hitherto indicated, not to join the World Federation of Trade Unions because of "alleged communistic influences." The Defender

Coincidental with the meeting of the AFL here was a report of a bolt within the membership of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the only Negro controlled union within AFL ranks.

A. Philip Randolph, international president of the brotherhood and other top officials were criticized by Wesley Walker, organizer of the revolt, with supporting the AFL's conservative attitude toward world labor, perpetuating themselves in office, refusing to disclose the financial condition of the union and of levying taxes without proper representation. Chicago, Ill.

Pullman Porters Revolt

Walker claims that 1,200 porters have indicated a willingness to quit the brotherhood for affiliation with the CIO. C. E. Kendricks, president of a defunct Pullman porter organization that was allied with the Confederated Unions of America, is reported to have been invited to bring his followers into the proposed CIO union.

Meanwhile Randolph, and his first international vice president, Milton P. Webster, both of whom are delegates to the AFL convention here, appeared unconcerned over the reported split.

Other Negro labor leaders attending the sessions that are expected to conclude at the end of this week are David Matthews, secretary of the trustee board, and George Dixon, president of International Longshoremen's Association, Local 1410 of Mobile, Ala.; F. R. Betton, vice president, and J. E. Clayton, organizer for the National Farm Labor Union, with headquarters in Memphis; Emmanuel D. Williams, of Richmond, Va., president of the all-Negro Central Labor Union; Clifford Wallace, member of the executive board, of Local 1290, Common Laborers and Builders Union; J. Harvey Netter, president of the New Orleans ILA local, representing the interracial New Orleans Central Trade and Labor Council; P. L. Bastine, of Kansas City, Mo., Local 555 of the Masons and Plasterers Union; Hilton E. Hanna, of Madison, Wis., educational representative for the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America; B. U. Brock, Pittsburgh, Pa., business manager of Local 11, International Hod Carriers and Building Laborers of America; Frank Evans, of Cleveland, member of the international executive board of the United Automobile Workers of America, and John E. Hargrove, labor relations advisor for the OPA Labor Office, Washington, D. C. Sat. 10-19-46

Two On Committee

The only two Negro delegates known to be serving on any of the several score committees are Randolph, a member of the organization committee and Webster serving on the shorter workday committee.

George L. Googe, southern organizing director, in his report to the convention declared that as of Oct. 1, this year, "there was not a signed AFL contract anywhere in Dixie where there was a wage differential because of race, creed, color, or sex."

However, Googe failed to disclose, in reporting on the number of workers recruited to date, the percentage of Negroes and how many, if any, were organized into Jim Crowed auxiliaries. He did report, however, that 450,000 Negro men and women are working under AFL contracts in the South.

Anti-Semitism Charged

During the week a flurry was stirred from an unexepected source when the "International Teamster" appeared with an editorial that was interpreted as "viciously anti-Semitic."

The magazine is published by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen, and Helpers (AFL) of which Daniel Tobin is president.

Voicing opposition to a proposal that 50,000 homeless Jews be admitted to the United States, the editorial declared that the reufgees

are Communists or Communist sympathizers and described them as "hordes of converts to foreign ideologies . . . who would enter to carry on the feuds which have reduced Europe and Asia to a social cesspool . . ."

David Dubinsky, a Jew, not a Communist, and president of the powerful International Ladies Garment Workers Union, said that the argument because a person is a Jew he is bound to be a Communist is "the language of Hitler and Goebbles."

AFL Carmen Strike "White" From Their Constitution

Defender
Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-5-46

Seven thousand car cleanerscals were admitted to full union priv-status as all others. 10-5-46 ileges in the AFL Brotherhood of Railway Carmen last week, when union delegates meeting at the Morrison Hotel struck the word "white" from the union constitution.

Prior to this the carmen had been members of union auxiliary locals, and were not permitted to send delegates to conventions. Announcing the action Felix Knight, president, said these lo-

SIU Defies Members, Continues Jim Crow

PM
By Ben Yablonky
New York, N.Y.

Members of the AFL Seafarers International Union by a vote of 340 to 93 decided more than a week ago to abolish their separate hiring halls for Negroes.
Thurs. 10-3-46

But the will of the membership—despite the overwhelming vote to outlaw Jim Crow by a nearly four to one majority—will not prevail. SIU leaders, it has been learned, have ruled that the union's long-standing discriminatory policy will remain.

The rank and file action, taken at a general membership meeting at SIU headquarters at 51 Beaver St. last Wednesday, grew out of a brief experience during the general maritime strike last month.

While the 16-day walkout was on, the SIU's Negro hiring hall on the fourth floor became the "Education Department." For the first time, Negro members, who constitute about one-fifth of the 11,000 men in the SIU, enjoyed equal union rights. They went out on picket duty, marching side by side with white brothers. They ate in the same soup kitchen and participated in all the strike activities without discriminaition.

The moment the strike ended, the separate Negro hiring hall was doing business again on the fourth floor, while white members hired out of their hall on the second floor. Negro and white members, however began circulating petitions to end the Jim Crow practice, and this campaign brought the issue up before the meeting.

Last Friday, two days after the meeting, a notice appeared on the blackboard reserved for official bulletins, advising members to disregard any action taken at the meeting, and adding that "the policy of the union will remain as it always has been." The announcement, like other official notices, was not signed but members say there was no doubt that the order came from either Paul Hall, the New York port agent, or John Hawk, the union's international secretary-treasurer and vice president.

When PM telephoned union headquarters for a comment on the move, the reporter was told that Hawk was not in. When the story was recited to Hall over the phone, and he was asked to confirm, deny or comment on the report, he hesitated, then replied:

"I'm too busy."

When the Jim Crow hall was restored after the last strike, Hawk was asked by PM whether such action didn't constitute discrimination. He replied then:

"It's not important how I feel. I feel I have to carry out the policies of the membership."

Despite the present setback, rank-and-filers, both Negro and white, aren't giving up their fight to do away with the Jim Crow halls. They point out that even if they win their fight, it will be the first step towards wiping ou. the union's policy of hiring Negroes only for jobs in the stewards' department on ships, and for other less desirable jobs.

The SIU, unlike the CIO National Maritime Union, has a ban on mixing crews. Negroes in the SIU are barred from jobs in the deck and engine departments. The NMU, which maintains a single hiring hall, makes no distinction between white and colored members, and on occasion has tied up ships because ship owners have refused to accept qualified Negroes as deckhands or in the engine room.

Drive Pleases World AFL Coordinator

Memphis, Tenn.

NEW ORLEANS — "I am completely satisfied with the progress being made locally in the AFL Organizing Campaign," Patrick (Pat) Ryan coordinator of the drive, stated during an informal interview the past week end. He said he had the same satisfaction over the progress of the campaign throughout the State and that it is his information that the Southwide movement is meeting with spectacular success Through August 1, the AFL had added more than 100,000 members, and, at the present time, he estimated that at least a thousand members a week are being organized in Louisiana alone.
Tues. 10-15-46

Impressed with their efforts to date but still aware that there is much to be done—because of the existence of so many large industrial plants in which the members belong to no union whatever—Mr. Ryan and Dr. George W. Snowden, associate professor of economics at Dillard University, who is a special counsel on minority problems for the current drive, called together all organizers of the local drive last week and reviewed their activities in the various plants to which they were assigned. They were also given orientation in the latest organizing methods in force in the American Federation of Labor.

Many of the new organizers are women and they are proving they can do work just as effective as the men, the coordinators said. Among organizers present and taking part in the discussions and receiving latest instructions were Helen Marie Moore, Henry Charles, William W. Acker, Oliver Frederick, Harold Schwehm, Henry Williams, Roy Billings, James Roger, Paul Morris, John Booty, Carl Ray Johnson, R. E. Willis Nash Wise, C. J. Casey, Charles Barnes, Sr., and Louise Ellen Marx.

AFL's Stand on 'Tolerance

PM
By Justin McCarthy
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CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—Encouraged by results of its southern organizing drive, the American Federation of Labor concluded its 65th convention yesterday with a call for a nationwide campaign for 10,000,000 members. Its membership is now 7,000,000.
New York, N.Y.

The more than 600 delegates reiterated AFL demands for development of a comprehensive national program of social security such as contained in the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill.
Tues. 10-15-46

The convention:

¶ Unanimously approved calling on the AFL "to wage an unrelenting struggle against the groups responsible for spreading the poison of anti-Catholicism, anti-Protestantism, anti-Semitism, anti-Negroism and other forms of racial prejudice."

¶ Reaffirmed its stand in favor of the six-hour day and five-day week.

¶ Stated that the AFL "will continue to fight for the rights of veteran trainees by eliminating limitations and the amount of allowances these trainees may receive."

¶ Demanded that the "hideous" Lea Bill aimed at James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, "be completely wiped from the books.

The convention reiterated its support of fair employment practices legislation but approved the report of the executive council which charged that FEPC bills that provide for "compulsory governmental regulation and denying to the trade unions movement the right of self government, cannot but act as a detriment to the successful consummation of our efforts to solve the problem of discrimination."

This means the AFL will oppose an FEPC law that would make it illegal for unions to discriminate against Negroes.

AFL Attorney Visits Irwinton In Flogging Case

Warren Hall, Southern attorney for the American Federation of Labor, Thursday was in Irwinton to confer with organizers for the United Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers' International Union, and to continue labor's investigation into the recent flogging in Wilkinson County of a Negro member of that union by four masked men.

Before leaving Atlanta Wednesday, Mr. Hall said he was convinced that Sheriff W. E. Hambrick, of Twiggs County, where the Negro was working when he was allegedly handcuffed and abducted by the four men, "is conducting a good investigation."

No arrests have been made in connection with the flogging of Willie Dudley, the workman, it was learned from the offices of both Twiggs and Wilkinson county sheriffs Thursday. The investigation, it was said, was "proceeding."

A. F. of L. and law enforcement officials now are of the opinion that the floggers were not members of the Ku Klux Klan, despite that the victim told officers the men informed him they were Klansmen. Investigators now believe the men responsible for the whipping were representatives of antiunion elements in that section.

AFL Color Bar Broken In N.Y.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Labor Council

Sat. 9-14-46

NEW YORK — Thirty-three years of segregation in the AFL gave ground last week somewhat when Joseph B. Green was seated as a delegate in the recent New York Central Trades and Labor Council as a representative of the New York Railway Mail Association.

This liberal step taken by a conservative labor union, however, was not a voluntary one. Only a year ago, following a U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing the national body's "Caucasian Clause" in New York State, Greene and six other Negro railway postal clerks were admitted into the New York local.

In June, 1942, defying a 29-year-old ban, the New York branch of the RMA asked the national officers to set aside the Jim Crow bar in this state, as it was not in conformity with Section 43 of the State's Civil Rights Law, which prohibits discrimination by labor organizations. They refused and the N. Y. State Committee on Discrimination in Employment successfully carried the fight to the high court.

Last month, branch president Morris Klein, looking for a qualified delegate to the powerful Central Trades and Labor Council, whose 300 affiliates represent three quarters of a million workers, chose Greene.

Tom Kelly, chairman of the Branch Civil Rights Committee and head of the Civil Service Commission of the N. Y. Civil Rights Congress, requested the local branch to remind AFL national president, William Green, that several hundred Negro clerks are barred from membership in the association in the South. In keeping with their policy of organizing workers in their campaign in the South without regard to color or creed, Green replied that he is making an inquiry into the situation.

Klan Fails To Frighten Workers Joining AFL Union

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 5-24-46

GORDON, Ga. — Workers of the Gordon Clay Co. here refused to be intimidated by the Klan and last week signalized the fact by joining local 233 of the Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers union, AFL.

In an NLRB election last week the employees voted 375 to 80 to make local 233 their bargaining agent, thus chalking up a victory for the AFL in its Southern organizing campaign. Company resistance to the union broke after Willie Dudley, Negro, in a climax to anti-union activities, was kidnaped and flogged by men who joined the union and evoked a pistols and beaten with a rubber hose.

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The flogging of Dudley came as the result of his refusal to resign from AFL union stated that two company officials of the union and evoked a denunciation from William Green, who asked that Dudley be dismissed as an employee of the company.

RR Carmen Head Asks End of Union's Jimcrow

The Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Tues. 9-24-46

By Otto H. Wangerin

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—In his report to the 19th convention of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America here, general president Felix H. Knight recommended removal of constitutional bars against admittance of Negro workers.

Knight proposed "striking out the word 'white' in the first line of Section 6 Subordinate Lodge Constitution" which deals with restricting membership to white persons only.

Resolutions have also been submitted by the general executive board and scores of local lodges, calling for striking out a constitutional clause which provides for organization of Negro workers into separate lodges without direct representation of their own.

Among the resolutions introduced on this matter are two which proposed instead that the separate Negro lodges shall have the right to elect delegates and be represented at all union conventions. If these resolutions are adopted it would mean direct representation but a continuation of the Jimcrow setup in the union.

SINCE 1888

These proposals all deal with the discriminatory practices which have been in force in this craft since 1888.

Altogether over 61 resolutions have been introduced by local lodges aimed at amending the constitution to rid the union of the bars of discrimination against Negro workers.

The convention has before it 124 additional resolutions among them dealing with such vital issues as:

● Urging the Brotherhood "to declare the joining with all other labor and people's progressive political organization in a movement for independent political action of labor and the common people to defeat our enemies in Congress in the 1946 and 1948 elections."

● Calling for "uniting the ranks of the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods to enter the political arena through an independent labor party and put an end to 'company unionism' in politics."

COMMON FRONT

● Calling for the "setting up of a great common front of united action by all 21 standard railway labor organizations to renew the fight to gain our objectives of higher wages to meet the runaway cost of living, the shorter week and improved working conditions."

● Placing the brotherhood on record in favor of the "aims and objects of the World Federation of Trade Unions and urging the AFL to affiliate." 9-24-46

Over 900 delegates are attending the convention from all parts of the United States and Canada representing 131,819 members employed in the car building and repair departments of 290 railroads.

Knight announced his retirement as president of the union to take effect in December.

Carmen Keep Jimcrow Rule

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America's convention today adopted a special committee report which continues Jimcrow in the union.

While the word "white" was stricken from Clause (a) of Section 6, dealing with qualifications for membership, Clause (c) of the same section was retained, which segregates Negro members into separate lodges and denies them selfrepresentation before railroad management, or at system joint protective board and international union conventions. Sat. 9-28-46

The only qualification adopted was that the Jimcrow setup "shall not apply in jurisdictions where its application will conflict with existing law."

A fierce fight raged for three days on this issue.

pointed by Knight.

The committee's recommendation would continue the union's Jimcrow setup in southern states. In some other areas Negro workers would be accorded full rights of membership, or membership at large, in which instance they would pay their dues and be represented by the nearest white local. According to the proposal, where separate Negro lodges are continued, these lodges would for the first time win the right to self-representation on local grievance committees and at railroad system and international union conventions.

Beside these revisions the committee recommended deletion of the word "white" in line one, which would admit Negro workers to membership. This provision in constitution is outdated inasmuch as there are already thousands of Negro workers in the union.

Numerous delegates view this compromise proposal as an appeasement of anti-Negro elements in the union, and at the same time a means of avoiding court action against the union on Jimcrow.

The convention was addressed yesterday by William Green, AFL president, who made no mention of Jimcrow in the union.

CARMEN TO ACT ON JIMCROW 'COMPROMISE' PROPOSAL

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Fri. 9-27-46

By Otto H. Wangerin

CHICAGO, Sept. 26.—Following defeat of a recommendation by General president Felix H. Knight and the general executive board to strike out the color bar in the union's constitution, the Brotherhood Railway Carmen of America yesterday resumed consideration of a compromise proposal on the same issue.

The question came before the convention again yesterday in the report of a special committee ap-

A. Philip Randolph

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 10-26-46

A. Philip Randolph, International President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, is now on tour of principal southern cities. He is being accompanied on this tour by Milton P. Webster, First International Vice-President. He is endeavoring to give the inside story of the filibuster against Fair Employment Practice Commission. He promises also to give an insight to the future program of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC.

We do not know any man in American public life, certainly no Negro, whose life and services have been more consistently devoted to the emancipation of the Negro working masses than Mr. Randolph. The story of the organization, and development of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is essentially the story of the struggles, the rebuffs and the triumphs of Mr. Randolph. True enough, in recent years he has found able assistance from other Negro leaders and from the rank and file laboring masses. In another sense, he has been greatly aided by an expanding understanding and intelligence, both on the part of the Negro masses, and the general public. Nevertheless, his success and that of the Pullman Porter, is in the main, the work and triumphs of a determined fighter and spokesman for his people.

Atlanta, therefore is proud to welcome such a leader and covets for him and the group which he leads, an increasing measure of success.

Brotherhood of Porters Hit Twice at AFL Convention

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-26-46

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Attacks from within and without rocked the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters' Union here last week during the 65th American Federation of Labor Convention at the Morrison Hotel.

A move to kick the brotherhood out of the AFL came almost simultaneously with the move by members to either withdraw from the AFL or demand certain reforms within their union, with A. Philip Randolph, international president, on the defensive in both instances.

The outside attack came from F. N. Aten, a representative of the Railways Employes' Department, who submitted a resolution to the committee on adjustment demanding that the brotherhood be ousted because of "unethical organizational tactics."

Accused of Assuming Too Much

In the resolution, Aten charged that the brotherhood was guilty of attempts to organize workers ouside its jurisdiction, and recommended suspension of the all-colored international unless it discontinued its organizational program by January, 1947.

Chartered to organize "porters, attendants, maids and bus boys," the brotherhood was accused of attempting to "organize mechanics, helpers, apprentices, coach cleaners, laborers and storeroom emloyes, all . . . recognized as coming within the jurisdiction of the shop crafts organization."

Specifically, he charged that Randolph's union had encroached upon the territory of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, the International Brotherhood of Blacksmith, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Sheet Metal Workers' In-

Porters Open National Meet In Chicago

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-21-46

Strategy Planned To Save Rail Jobs For Negro Workers

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, celebrating their 21st anniversary, opened their fifth biennial convention in Chicago, Sunday, with FEPC and the fight to prevent displacement of Negro rail workers looming as the principal issues.

Headed by A. Phillip Randolph, international president, the union, made up of 15,000 members, 10 per cent of whom are non-colored, is the largest Negro controlled labor organization in the United States. It is an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor. Meeting concurrently is the powerful women's auxiliary, of which Mrs. Helena Wilson, of Chicago is international president.

The sessions, held in the Chicago division headquarters of the union, were scheduled to conclude Friday.

The convention opened Sunday with a mass meeting at Du Sable high school at which William E. Green, AFL president, was principal speaker.

Green declared that the AFL never has, isn't now, and never would discriminate against Negroes, though he admitted that some internationals still refuse to accept colored workers.

The Communists, he said, are the greatest enemies of Negro workers and added that the AFL was their greatest champion. He pledged AFL support for abolition of poll tax, and federal fair employment legislation. Despite the red baiting statement, Green failed to take note of race hate groups in the country or of absence of binding anti-discrimination clauses in the AFL constitution.

2,000 Attend Opening

L. O. Manson, acting as master of ceremonies, presented to the audience of more than 2,000 persons, Randolph, Mrs. Wilson, Milton P. Webster, first international vice president and C. L. Dellums, fourth international vice president.

Chief problem facing the several hundred delegates from all sections of the United States and Canada is the organization's fight to prevent the displacement of veteran Negro locomotive firemen and trainmen by white workers.

Root of the difficulty is refusal of two other unions, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, to accept Negroes working within the jurisdiction of the two unions into membership. This means, that these Negro workers, many of them veterans of several decades, are without recognized representation in their efforts to retain their jobs.

FEPC On Docket

Defender

A restraining order, obtained through the efforts of the Randolph union, made up principally of Pullman porters and maids, is offering temporary protection of the men facing loss of their jobs. Suits are now pending in the federal courts of Chicago and Kansas City attacking the constitutionality of Railway Labor act, under which the two lily-white unions have authority to displace the Negro workers.

Chicago, Ill.

Also docketed for discussion is the fight for federal fair employment legislation that has been spearheaded by the Brotherhood under the leadership of Randolph.

Other than benefits that such legislation might afford all Negroes, the Brotherhood is particularly interested because of discriminatory employment practices by the railroads and some of the railroad unions. Sat. 9-21-46

While union members are discussing their affairs, the women's auxiliary is holding its sessions at Metropolitan Community church.

Another public session was scheduled for Wednesday at which Webster was to give an account of the Brotherhood's stewardship of the FEPC campaign.

Other activities include a biennial soiree at Forum hall Monday; a reception at Corpus Christi center, Tuesday; a musical concert Wednesday, and the twenty-first anniversary celebration and dance at the Savoy ballroom Thursday.

Pullman Porters Win Job Fight

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (ANP)— The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was granted a temporary restraining order, here, June 24, to prevent the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, white, from taking away the jobs of colored train porters.

The temporary injunction, issued by Judge Albert L. Reeves of the U.S. District Court, restrains the M.K.T. railroad from cancelling the contract it holds with the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Sat. 7-6-46

At the same time, it orders the white trainmen's union to stop making threats and otherwise interfering with the contractural relations between the train porters and the Katy railroad.

Long-Standing Contract

The porters' brotherhood, headed by A. Philip Randolph and Milton P. Webster, is the recognized bargaining agent for the train porters employed on the M.K.T. The union has had a written contract with the railroad since Dec. 3, 1928.

The contract is still in full effect and would not be subject to controversy if it were not for the attempt of the white trainmen's union to force the railroad to break the contract and to replace the porters with white trainmen.

The railroad has expressed satisfaction with the work of the train porters and has no desire to replace them with white men.

However, threats and intimidations of the white trainmen have been such that the railroad recently notified Randolph's union that its contract with the railroad would be cancelled as of June 30.

No Notice Allowed

It was to prevent this cancellation of contract on Sunday that the porters sought the restraining order.

Because of the urgency of the situation, Judge Reeves granted the temporary restraining order without allowing time for notice to be given to the railroad company and the defendant union.

The suit filed here by Randolph's union is actually a jurisdictional fight between the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, headed by A. L. Whitney.

Two Sets of Duties

For 60 years, the train porters have performed two sets of duties. One group of duties consisted of loading and unloading passengers, looking after their comfort, assisting with their luggage, etc.

In addition to these duties, the train porters have other duties under contract and established custom, which are more directly connected with the actual movement of trains.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen is trying to take away from train porters the duties connected with the movement of trains, although porters have performed these duties for railroads for over 60 years.

Break In Pullman Porters Brotherhood Looms

Defender

By MAJOR ROBINSON

NEW YORK—An open break in Philip A. Randolph's Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was threatening this week when it was learned that an independent group of Pullman porters are spearheading a movement to join Bill Townsend's CIO United Service Employees Union.

Charles E. Kendricks, president of the Pullman Porters Union, revealed that he had seen the CIO chieftain on his visit to New York recently. Claiming that many of Randolph's AFL Brotherhood members are dissatisfied with the way the union's affairs are being run, Kendricks said that his conference with Townsend should bear results in the near future.

The grievances of Brotherhood members, Kendricks said, had been formed over a period of years and caused many to drop their membership in it. Some of the charges he levelled against Randolph were: Sat. 9-6-46

The recent $25 assessment levied against each member by the union, which was excessive and has caused unfavorable reaction within the ranks.

11,000 Miles A Month

The 240 hours a month work limit, first adopted in 1937, abolishing the 11,000 miles a month contract in effect up until that time. Under the provisions of the mileage limit more money was earned as all over the 11,000 miles porters were paid at the rate of 60 cents a hundred miles. Now with train service speeded up the 240 hours a month has been difficult to accomplish.

Separation of sleeping car from club car employees affected the older workers, who transferred from the former to the latter when making up beds became too strenuous for them.

The wage increases given porters was not all the doings of Randolph's organization, but more or less understood when the big 4—the railroad trainmen groups—got increases Pullman porters were to receive the same.

Brotherhood membership has greatly decreased over a period of time and today numbers about 7,000 members.

Randolph's various duties, such as the March - On - Washington movement, has caused him to devote less time to Brotherhood affairs, Kendricks said.

When told some of the charges of Kendricks', Ashley Totten, secretary-treasurer of the Brotherhood said that many groups have been "viciously operating to split the Brotherhood" and the Porters Union was one of these.

Kendricks Called Agitator

"Kendricks has been an agitator for some time and adopted a hostile attitude toward the organization," he said, "since 1934 when he was ousted because of his detrimental actions towards us. There may be a few who rumble, and you'll find this in every organization, but the bulk of the Brotherhood membership is 100 per cent behind the officers and everything we do here all members are consulted before any action is taken."

The recent assessment, he said, was necessary to bear the expense involved in obtaining a pay increase and thousands of members have already paid the $25 with no dissenting noticed. In the last few weeks alone more than $3,000 was collected. The Defender

Organized in 1925 the Pullman Porters Union is affiliated with the Confederated Unions of America, and according to its president numbers about 3,000 members. Kendricks said that they have offices in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and in New York.

Opposed Brotherhood

In 1935 they opposed the brotherhood in an election to win sole bargaining rights for the porters and lost out. However, they have grievance committees and can appeal to the Labor Board on any decisions. Chicago, Ill

Though the CUA wants to back them in an all-out campaign to win the majority of porters over to their union, Kendricks said that a survey conducted by his group recently showed the men want to become affiliated with the CIO.

Three years ago, he said, his group approached Townsend with the "join up proposition" but in view of the war in progress the idea was tabled until the end of the war. Phillip Murray, head of the CIO, he said, was against engaging in any inter-union warfare at that time. Sat. 7-6-46

Randolph Chosen Head Of Porters 21st Time

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
Tues. 9-24-46

CHICAGO, Ill.— (SNS)— At the closing session of the 5th Bienniel Convention, at Chicago, September 20, 1946, A. Philip Randolph was unanimously re-elected International President, marks his 21st year as the head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. All of the officials were re-elected, including M. P. Webster, 1st International Vice President Other International Vice Presidents include Bennie Smith of Detroit, E. J. Bradley of St. Louis and C. L Dellums of Oakland, Calif Ashley L. Totten was re-elected International Secretary-Treasurer

The Fifth Biennial Convention of the B. S. C. P was the largest ever held in its history, with 150 or more delegates coming from 100 or more local divisions, stretching across the entire country of the United States and Canada, and including representation of 95 per cent of the railroads in the two countries employing sleeping car, train, coach and chair car porters, attendants, and maids There were also observers to the Convention from the ranks of the Pullman Yard Forces in attendance.

Resolutions debated and adopted by the Convention covered a wide range of subjects and interests, both with respect to the craft and those of broader, social, economic, and political interests. The resolution of absorbing interest was concerned with the reduction of the work-month from 240 to 180 hours as a basic month in all classes of service, with time and a half for overtime. There was overwhelming agreement that the progressive mechanization of the railroads, 240 is much too long for a porter to work, stated A. Philip Randolph, the porters' leader.

A resolution adopted by the brotherhood stated that imperialism of western democracy and soviet Russia, if unchecked was certain to lead to another world war.

The convention also indorsed the OPA and warned the American people that there was an ominous economic trend in the country that might lead to a fascist dictatorship.

Another resolution, adopted by the convention last Wednesday, condemned the Communist party.

The party's program and practices, the resolution said, were in conflict with the interests of this country and were threat to the trade union movement and to the cause of colored people.

The convention also went on record against alliance with the World Federation of Trade Unions because of its acceptance of the Communist Trade Union Interna-

Pittsburgh Courier
Tues. 9-24-46

A. Philip Randolph, M. P. Webster, and Claude Grooms, 2nd Vice President of the Chicago Division were elected to represent the Brotherhood at the 66th Convention of the American Federation of Labor in Chicago, Ill, October, 1946.

Randolph backing Lewis

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat. 11-30-46

NEW YORK — President Truman was condemned and John L. Lewis upheld by A. Philip Randolph, sleeping car porters' head, in a statement issued from his headquarters here this week.

Because "practically 99% of Negroes are working people, and also since John L. Lewis and his united miners have always maintained a sound and fair position on Negro workers", Randolph said he urges the race to support Lewis' fight for increased wages and shorter hours for his United Mine Workers.

"This injunction of the government against the miners is a dangerous expression of fascism, and strikes at the heart of American democracy," Randolph said.

"President Truman, in throwing the power of the government against organized labor in its legitimate fight for the protection and advancement of the interests and rights of the workers, has committed a grievous blunder and has only complicated and made labor conditions worse," Randolph continued, adding that Truman's action "is a manifestation of desperation and confusion and the lack of a clear, constructive labor policy which can effectively deal with problems that are becoming threatening because of inflationary prices that are nullifying labor's increase in wages."

Porters to Sue Four Newspapers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is contemplating legal action against four newspapers, which published an unverified and defamatory statement of its obligation to members in financial matters, it was announced here last week.

The Brotherhood informant named the Amsterdam News, People's Voice, Pittsburgh Courier, and Chicago Defender as the of-

fenders, and added that the case was now under advisement of the union's legal department.

The item on which action may be taken was carried in the Oct. 19 issue of the newspapers, and stated that the union had never made any report on its financial condition. Sat. 11-16-46

Ashley L. Totten, secretary-treasurer of the Brotherhood, said the statement was highly erroneous, and A. Philip Randolph, president, declared that there has never been a time in the history of the Brotherhood that it has not made a financial report, even when it had nothing to report.

The general consensus of union officers is that the statement was inspired by Communists who were denounced by Randolph and President William L. Green of the AFL at the Brotherhood's recent convention in Chicago.

Writes Book on Pullman Porters

BRAILSFORD R. BRAZEAL

Writes History of Porters' Union

ATLANTA, Ga.—"The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters," a record of one of the most interesting labor organizations in the United States, has just come off the press. It was written by Dr. Brazeal, professor of economics at Morehouse College, and has been published by Harper and Brothers of New York and London.

The graphic drawing on the cover of the book, symbolical of the serious and aggressive Pullman porter, is by the internationally famous painter, Hale Woodruff.

In 258 pages, the book relates vividly the struggle of the American Negro to secure recognition in the world of organized labor. It tells the story of the beginnings, growth and present activities of the Brotherhood which mark a noteworthy advance in the Negro's economic status.

Professor Leo Wolman of the department of economics at Columbia University, who wrote the foreword, states that "unlike many standard labor histories, Dr. Brazeal's findings depend, not on inadequate printed records but on wide personal observation, carried on for many years, of the work of the porters and of the life of their union."

Pullman And Dining Men Not Out On R. R. Strike

Strikers in the national rail stoppage counted few Negro workers among their group when demands were made for decent working hours and wages for rail employees. Few Negro workers belong to the Brotherhoods of Railway Trainmen or Locomotive Engineers, the two striking labor unions.

While the stoppage spread from one end of the nation to the other, members of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, of which A. Philip Randolph is the head, were instructed to report for work whether they had been instructed to or not by train officials.

Members of the Brotherhood, including pullman porters, maids, attendants, chair and coach car porters and porter-brakemen, have all been told to make their appearance at their jobs according to schedule. On such trains as the Pennsylvania, which is running a restricted schedule with "qualified supervisory officers, employees and volunteers" manning the trains, members of the Brotherhood assigned to them, will work as usual.

Claims will be put in for all employees time, Mr. Ashely Totten, secretary, stated, whether the men are allowed to go out or not.

"According to our contract," Mr. Totten said, "men are to be paid for 240 hour month. We intend to see that they get their pay, whether the trains run or not, since our union is not involved in the strike."

The men have been instructed, however, Mr. Totten added, to function only in those jobs to which they have been previously assigned, and are not to take over jobs of striking rail employees.

Much the same conditions exists in Local 370 of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' International Alliance, of which dining car cooks and waiters are members.

Claude Mason, secretary-treasurer of the local, stated that the members will not lay off because of the strike. As in the case of members of the Brotherhood, color bars in the striking unions are the bases for non-participation of his union, since such workers are not allowed voting membership in either of the striking Internationals.

"We have instructed our members to report," Mr. Mason said, "but have added that they must not take over any job to replace a striking employee."

Other Negro rail workers who are affected by the strike include a few stewards who are members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, with offices in Chicago. They, it would appear, would be among the very few workers who are included among the 250,000 members of the two Brotherhoods which are on strike.

Green Hits New High in Red-Baitin

By Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

There was neither truth nor elementary decency in the red-baiting speech which William Green delivered to the convention of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in Chicago. The speech was a patronizing and insulting harangue inflicted upon the Negro delegates and through them upon the whole Negro people.

Scarcely since the days of the late Dr. Goebbels, has red-baiting been carried to such a violent pitch. Indeed, when Green declared that "no punches should be pulled against them (the Communists—B. D.)" it was precisely violence that he was inciting. He accused the Communists of everything under the sun—it was "damned if we do, and damned if we don't."

Green said a few words in favor of passage of anti-poll tax and FEPC legislation. But it is clear that these were said in response to the feeling of the Negro delegates present, ... to cloak his red-baiting po... must be said that no bottle of ... icate perfume such as this could kill the stench of the garbage which he flung over the convention.

To be frank, it would be better if Green's speech could be regarded as a horrible nightmare, such as is provided by a few rancid spots within the ranks of labor and forgotten. But unfortunately this cannot be done. Green's speech was delivered for a definite purpose, and requires examination.

At once, we recognize that it is ... Bill Green with his old tricks in a new setting. It is the same old Bill Green cringing before the men of the trusts who are at this very moment trying with red-baiting to smash the Teamsters, one of "his own" International unions, right here in New York. It is Bill Green cutting off his nose to spite his face. It is Bill Green belly-crawling before the labor-hating monopolists to whom red-baiting is No. 1 weapon for destroying the trade union movement.

Green's speech was the utterings of one who would resort even to the red-baiting of the Hearsts and Bilbos in order to intimidate the militant Negro people and their supporters as they push on toward full citizenship. This is the role of Bill Green and no amount of camouflage can hide him nor the ugly nakedness of Dubinsky, Hutcheson, Woll, Frey, Lewis and others on the AFL executive council for whom he is a kowtowing spokesman. Green's red-baiting had nothing in common with the best interests, needs or desires of the AFL membership or of the working class. It was, on the contrary, the policy of the boss class, smuggled in by Green in Trojan horse fashion.

WHAT HE NEGLECTED

One would have thought that before a convention of Negro trade unionists among them vets who are bearing on their backs the main drive of Big Business and its Ku Klux terrorists, Green would have discussed ways and means of placing the AFL in the front line of defense of the Negro people. One might have expected that Green would have been mindful of the mote in his own eye and that he would have pledged, on that occasion to rid the ... notorious Jim-... disgrace and weakens the organization.

One would have wanted Green to give some reason to the Pullman porters as to why he has never done anything about the discrimination in the AFL, raised so often in the AFL convention from the floor. One would have expected Green to explain why no Negro has ever been on the AFL executive council, or what interest has Green in the labor's southern organizing drive.

But instead of discussing these life and death questions to the Negro worker, Green gave them red-baiting which they can't eat or live in or wear on their backs.

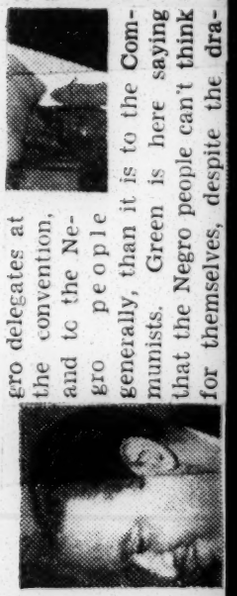
Green declared that the Communists harmed the struggle for the "FEPC and the anti-polltax bill by placing themselves in the forefront" for their passage. This, of course, is an honor to the Communists even though it comes in the form of a very significant back-door admission.

According to this tommyrot, the Communists should have let the Scottsboro boys die, let Dewey kill the State FEPC, keep quiet about the Georgia lynchings, and permit Bill Green to continue his Jimcrow policies in the AFL. This we along with the Negro people decline to do, even though we have to displease Bill Green. Meanwhile, we would like to remind Green that if he wishes, he can get in the forefront of the struggle for Negro rights. The field is open and he is welcome.

The dragnet character of Green's red-baiting can be seen in the fact whoever is in the "forefront" for passage of the FEPC, Green considers a Communist. This means that one shouldn't fight "too hard" for Negro rights, a "crime" of which Bill Green has never been guilty. The net result of this argument is to paralyze the Pullman Porters in their fight for Negro rights and for better treatment at the hands of the railroad monopoly. This is downright criminal when one considers that the Pullman Porters have already been considerably hamstrung by Social-Democratic policies pursued by A. Phillip Randolph, policies which have prevented the union, contrary to the members' wishes, from being in the effective leadership of the fight for labor and the Negro people.

Green Shows Contempt for Negro People

By Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.



matic political maturity the Negroes have displayed in recent years. Green could learn something from the Negro people for himself.

The program of the Communists is here saying Negroes should permit Green to fight for the full unconditional citizenship of the gro delegates at the convention, and to the Negro people generally, than it is to the Communists. Green is that the Negro people can't think think for them. Every Negro and for themselves, despite the dra- AFL worker should express his

(Continued from yesterday)

William Green, in his speech delivered to the convention of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in Chicago argues further more of an insult to the Negro people

... now, to beat down Bilboism, to fight against fascism at home and for peace abroad, to support labor's organizing drive in the South, to build an intimate collaboration between the labor movement and the Negro people against U. S. imperialists as the key to a stronger labor movement and a victorious struggle for Negro liberation. These policies of the Communist Party were decided by its Negro and white members. If such policies are making "tools" of anyone or "inciting revolution," then let Bill Green rave on and make the most of them.

One is compelled to say that it is too bad that the Negro members of the AFL, including the Pullman Porters, are permitted no representation whatever in the top policy-making body of the AFL.

FIGHT AGAINST PROGRESSIVES

Yes, in this situation someone is seeking to make "tools" of the Negro workers. It is none other than Bill Green and the reactionaries within the executive council. Green's speech was an attempt to use the Negro workers as tools in Bill Green's unprincipled fight against the Communists, against the CIO and against a fully united labor movement. In this, Green will fail, although through no fault of his own. Instead of mobilizing the Negro and white members of the AFL to fight the monopoly bosses, the labor-baiters, Green seeks to mobilize them to fight the Communists.

Green is contributing his two cents worth to the high-powered war drive of American imperialism which is to crush and intimidate the resistance of the workers at home through red-baiting. On foreign policy he agrees with Vandenberg and Byrnes, on domestic policy he takes his knee-bending position beside Taft, and at the same Porters' convention urged the scrapping of all price controls on Big Business. 9-21-46

The Communist Party has just completed a membership drive which brought in 15,000 new members. Many of them came from the AFL and a very encouraging proportion of these 15,000 members were Negro workers. Many more will be coming from all categories of the working population, including the AFL, who are second to none in wanting to struggle for a better life up to and including socialism.

The Negro workers are responsive to the Communist Party, because they know that the Communists fight unyieldingly against Jimcrow which Green and other members of the AFL executive council have seen fit to whitewash repeatedly. All of this has Green a little shaky and jittery. But if the progressiveness of the Negro workers, and the increasing militancy of the AFL members have Green shaky, then he hasn't begun to shake. Sat.

GREEN
Red-Baiter

Green can red-bait until his eyes pop, the Communist Party is going to be built. Negro workers and white will join in ever-increasing numbers. The Negro people and labor in this country needs a strong Communist Party, for this means a stronger trade union movement, a stronger fight for Negro rights, a stronger anti-monopoly front of the people. It means we shall be nearer the day when the labor movement will be united, when Negro and white and Negro and Negro will not be set against each other by the big bosses and their red-baiting stooges. Certainly, unity of labor and people of every race, creed, birth and political belief is urgent to turn back the drive of reaction at the elections.

The Negro people, nor their millions of allies in the AFL or the CIO, are going to sit around to be lynched and steamrollered by the big labor-baiting monopolies, waiting while the likes of cry-baby Bill Green appeases the enemy.

LABOR EVERYWHERE

... By .. P. L. PRATTIS

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 8-17-46

We gonna lay the hammer to the anvil this week and let the sparks sear whom they may. On accounta we just finished readin' a new book, written by what looks like an amiable sort of professor at Morehouse College, who is chairman of the Department of Economics. His name, spoken all in one breath, is Brailsford Reese Brazeal. The title of his book is "The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters." It is published by Harper & Brothers, New York. It was written to qualify for a doctorate at Columbia University an' it has the blessin' of Leo Wolman, professor of economics at Columbia.

Time has a slick way o' passin' quick-like so that some of you may not know that come next Sunday week, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters will be twenty-one years old. That fact, if there were others, qualifies the organization for a birthday party and enconiums. So nobody could reasonably kick if Professor Brazeal's document were delivered in the form of a birthday tribute. But it isn't. He has written an economic treatise which should be almost mathematical in its objectivity, but it isn't, not exactly.

Professor Brazeal is certainly to be commended for undertaking to write the history of the Pullman Porter Brotherhood. In such a story, there is room for just tribute to A. Philip Randolph, the "outside" organizer, and to such men as Milton P. Webster, Ashley Totten, W. H. Desverney, and others. There is also justification of his ideoligcal orientation of the struggle to establish, maintain and preserve the Brotherhood as an instrument for bringing Negro workers into the organized labor movement. A daring, foolhardy or inspired, according to your point of view, was required to undertake such a task at the time and under the circumstances that Randolph and his disciples brought the Brotherhood into being. The building of the Brotherhood is a concrete achievement. A valuable service is performed in defining its significance. That is what Friend Brazeal aims to do and does do, except that at times his cup, not of anger, but of gush, runneth over.

* * *

AS RELATED by Professor Brazeal, there had been some unsuccessful attempts to organize the Pullman porters prior to 1925 when a group in New York swung into action due to the long-standing neglect of the porters' welfare by the Pullman Company and the railroad workers, white. This was not so true in comparison with other classes of Negro wage earners. There was a time, not too far in the dim past when porters, letter carriers and postal clerks were in the preferred classes of Negro workers, among the first able to begin the the purchase of homes. Nevertheless, as became apparent in the long fight of the Pullman Company against the Brotherhood and the bitter campaign which the Brotherhood waged against the company union, known as the Employes' Representation Plan, the company aimed to keep the porters as near to status quo in respect to wages and working conditions as it possibly could. The company union, subject to duress for many reasons, was a convenient device for this purpose.

During the first nine years of the conflict, the porters themselves split. The company refused to deal with the Brotherhood leaders in any way. It favored the company union and the leadership of a fraternal association, the Pullman Porters' Benefit Association, which had won great respect among the porters and continues to hold that respect. Quite early, Randolph, who had distinguished himself as a Socialist in thinking and political action, turned to the American Federation for help. His aim, obviously, was to create sympathy for his movement along a broad front to place Pullman porters where he felt they belonged in relation to organized labor. But at the time he did so, the act had a more deeply-ingrained significance than Professor Brazeal makes clear in his history.

With the care befitting a man of his competence, Professor Brazeal details the various steps in the historic struggle waged by the Brotherhood through the eight years from 1925 until 1933. Despite a valiant fight, intelligently, if violently, and sometimes slanderously, conducted, the Brotherhood was almost out by 1933. From a high of 4,632 in 1927, the membership had dropped to 658 in 1933. This was out of a total of some 9,000 porters.

* * *

THEN Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected President and he came to bat with some brand new ideas about labor and labor relations. The National Industrial Recovery Act was passed and all labor, including that which was organized, began to seek and find new footing. The Brotherhood leaders were quick to take advantage of forces set in motion by the New Dealers and, within a couple of years, had won success in amending existing laws so that the porters could choose the union they desired. They chose the Brotherhood and the company was forced to recognize it, although the company continued to fight for some time through the Pullman Porters Protective Association.

Professor Brazeal's book is good and informative reading, if for no other reason than the discovery of the advances in wages and the improvement in working conditions which have come as a result of the Brotherhood's determined, undeviating action. The leadership has been skillful and it has won results that cannot be sniffed at. It is on reasonably solid ground now and may be expected to grow in strength and importance.

Naturally, this story centers around Randolph's always provocative activities, although Milton P. Webster can always be seen at his elbow. They are a team which commands respect. The result of their labors is good. One hasn't the slightest doubt that they think it is good. In reading Professor Brazeal's book, one gathers the impression that he has related the story as it was related to him—by Randolph and Webster, in the files of the Messenger magazine, for several years the publicity organ of the Brotherhood.

The story as told to Professor Brazeal has impugned all the early opposition among Negro leadership, among the Pullman porters, among Negro newspapers, in Negro churches, to the Brotherhood. Even now, a porter who was once on the other side must have his soul scrubbed before he is allowed to join the Brotherhood. The fight in these early days was a nasty one and I suppose some of the bitterness remains, But I do not approve the blanket indictment, even by implication, and I do not think the building of the Brotherhood is placed in proper perspective without a respectful spelling out of the nature of some of the objections which the early opposition had. Sat. 8-17-46

IT IS NOT too easy to appreciate in these days of the all-embracing CIO and an American Federation of Labor which is gingerly giving ground on race, not only what some Negroes in those days felt was valid opposition to the union movement, but also what they believed to be laudable reasons for standing by the employer. Mr. Brazeal indicates that he is as well informed in respect to the treatment of the Negro worker by the AFL craft unions and by the railroad unions as I am. The unions had a long history of keeping the Negro off jobs. The employer, selfishly, it is true, had given jobs to Negroes in large gobs. This treatment had caused most Negroes and most Negro leadership to honestly feel that union labor was their enemy and the employer their friend. There are many Negroes today who have that same feeling. One is not too sure, even now, that they would not be justified if the UNIONS THEMSELVES HAD NOT CHANGED. The attitude of organized labor, except a small segment, toward the Negro worker today is as different from the attitude in 1925 as Bilbo's attitude is from that of Henry Wallace. Except for a very few internationals, all the Negroes in the AFL in 1925 were in little jim crow Federal unions, 'specially designed for them. Furthermore, the AFL itself, was either static or regressive. Its membership had shrunken. It did not have great strength and force as a representative of labor. It was an aristocracy of certain craft workers.

I am confident that if the attitude toward the Negro had been the same as it is today, and had organized labor had the same elements of strength it has today, the attitude of Negroes toward the infant Brotherhood would have been different. I think the Brotherhood was up against a hard fact of history more than against simple meanness, stupidity and dishonesty in the opposition. I feel that many of those who opposed the Brotherhood had just as much integrity as those who fought for it. I am glad the Brotherhood is alive and prospering and that the way has been opened for Negro workers to unite with all other workers, but I am not too sure that the old opposition would have been proved too wrong if a political change in the thirties had not enabled all labor to begin throwing its weight

about. It is not intended to disparage Randolph or the Brotherhood leaders if it is remarked that they were helped by circumstance, a factor often conveniently ignored in laudatory evaluations.

I could wish that good Professor Brazeal had talked with some of the SINNERS as well as the SAINTS.

21L 1946 Canal Zone Workers Union

Backed by Government

LABOR OUT TO SMASH PANAMA CASTE SYSTEM

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 7-27-46

PANAMA—A newly born labor union, boasting 10,000 members, is massing all of its power in a determined effort to smash the outrageous caste system in the Canal Zone. One of the main objectives of the organization is to abolish the infamous "silver" and "gold' system

"Silver" workers are those who possess Negro blood. They are underpaid and denied privileges enjoyed by "gold" workers, a term used to describe the white men or women employes in the zone.

UNITE FOR ACTION

Another object of the labor organization—Canal Zone Workers Union—is to bring about the effective organization of the working men and women of the Canal Zone, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, and to unite them for common action into a labor union for their mutual aid and protection.

At the inauguration of the CZWU in the National Gymnasium, July 4, President Enrique A. Jimenez said, "This organization may expect the whole-hearted cooperation of my Government in bringing about the disappearance of racial discrimination that has no possible justification or reasonable explanation in a true democracy."

He added that "this labor organization has my full support in its stubborn determination to uphold the rights of its members within the norms of justice and good understanding."

AIDS GOVERNMENT WORKERS

The union—something new in the Republic of Panama—was organized mainly for the purpose of protecting the rights of Government workers who are employed in the Canal Zone. Sat. 7-27-46

The new union enrolled 3,000 workers during the first six weeks of its existence and 7,000 more during the next three weeks. Members have realized that the fight of the union is not for one individual but for the working masses joined in one solid block.

21L 1946

Chicago Journeyman Plumbers Union

PLUMBERS UNION OPEN TO ALL *The Afro-American Baltimore, Md*

CHICAGO—(ANP) — After a 20-year fight, this city has opened the Chicago Journeyman Plumbers Union, Local 130, to all races. *Sat. 10-26-46*

Nation's Leaders Praise Late CIO-PAC Chairman

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 7-20-46

The nation's outstanding Negro leaders including many CIO and AFL officials —from extreme left to conservative — were unanimous in praising the late Sidney Hillman for his record in the struggle for minority rights.

Congressman A. Clayton Powell declared that "the passing of Mr. Hillman must take its place as a national tragedy by the side of the passing of Mr. Roosevelt." Powell added, "Just as we who believe in Mr. Roosevelt dedicated ourselves to keeping alive his spirit, now we must rededicate ourselves to keeping alive the spirit of Mr. Hillman."

Henry Lee Moon, assistant to the chairman, CIO-PAC, reviewed Hillman's fight with Bilbo and stated, "He helped in the formulation of the Roosevelt policy which created the FEPC. He was foe to all restrictive measures aimed at minorities."

Walter White, secretary, NAACP, in a message to Mrs. Hillman said, "The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sends you most profound sympathy . . . Few men in America's history have been subjected to such criticism because of place of birth and race. . . . We mourn his passing not only for you but for all of America."

Phillip Weightman, International vice president, UPWA, said, "With the passing of Sidney Hillman, the American people lost a leader who envisioned the day when all people, regardless of race, could enjoy the social and economic benefits that they deserve."

Ishmael Flory

Ishmael Flory, founder of Joint Council Dining Employes, AFL, former international representative UMMSW-CIO, and Legislative Director of Chicago's South Side Communist party, said that "Hillman did much to make American workers conscious of political action—away from old parties and for their interests as a class."

Eugene Kinkle Jones, general secretary of the Urban League, in a message to Mrs. Hillman, averred, "The cause of Democracy everywhere and particularly American minorities have lost a great champion. . . ."

Alfred McPherson, International Representative UERM-CIO, viewed Hillman's death as "a loss to the working people of the world . . . and a friend of all races. . . ."

Operation Dixie Is Not Getting Results Expected At Start

Sun. 9-1-46 Birmingham, Ala.

BY VICTOR RIESEL
Labor News Specialist

FROM WHERE I SIT, the CIO's Southern drive for 1,000,000 new members appears to be slowing down.

Look at what happened in the atom-bomb town of Oak Ridge, Tenn. The CIO set up an atomic workers' organizing committee, published The Atomic Worker, an exciting tabloid newspaper, and skillfully used all the modern propaganda techniques for which it is famous. Yet in the NLRB election, when about 20,000 atom splitters employed in those three Oak Ridge bomb plants voted for a union to speak for them, they voted more heavily for the staid AFL than the militant CIO. In the third plant, where the people didn't like the AFL, the crew voted against all unions rather than be represented by the CIO.

This is one of the most important setbacks the CIO has suffered in 10 years. It reflects opinion in many Southern cities. As a result of this public friction, the CIO drive is now a glaring success. Since the campaign started, the CIO's Operation Dixie has set up only 56 new unions with a membership of far less than 75,000—which isn't exactly breathing hotly down the neck of the 1,000,000th-member goal.

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Wed. 9-1-46

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Equal Wage Policies Mark Operation Dixie

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 9-14-46

By EARL CONRAD

ATLANTA—The logic of Congress of Industrial Organization principles is carrying "Operation Dixie" in a progressive direction regardless of the weaknesses of individual organizers or leaders in the movement.

As long as the CIO is committed to a policy of the same wage-rate for Negro and white, its growth is striking at the fundamental characteristic of traditional Southern economy.

That some such process as this is in operation, however bumpily, was clear to me after I visited CIO headquarters here and talked with some of the leadership.

I found no evidence that anyone in charge of the state organization campaign or in the Atlanta organization process has anything like a profound orientation in favor of Negro rights, such as one might find among numerous CIO white leaders in the North. If such attitudes exist they are being carefully concealed for reasons of effective organization.

Enlightened Self Interest

White labor here seems to realize however, that in enlightened self-interest, the Negro worker in the Southern mill and factory and office must be organized alongside the white worker. There is little or nothing in the way of inter-group education going on, as far as I could see, other than the logic of the fundamental process itself: the same wage-rate for Negro and white.

"Operation Dixie" in this state is very sensitive to the Negro question. It surrounds the organization process very much like the Negro issue permeates every phase of life in the South. And I think it significant that in plant after plant Negro and white have been united at least on the economic level. If the CIO continues to hold to that policy, if it does not yield to supremacist threats, if it does not enter into political deals with the Old Guard for the sake of staying in existence, progress will continue.

Actually I don't think that the CIO needs to make any compromise with the supremacist crowd in order to "stay in existence." The "Operation Dixie" has the backing of Northern progress, it has the sanction of Federal law, it has moral right on its side and it has right-minded Southern whites by the thousand backing it up.

It was whispered to me that the CIO "might make a deal with Talmadge." I do not know what the reason for any such deal would be or why it should be necessary. Right now CIO may be afraid of the labor hating Talmadge. Talmadge made clear to me that he was uncertain of the strength of labor and he was inclined to "let them alone as long as they obey the law." That the CIO and Talmadge are looking at each other across an actual ideological barrier is very probably true. It is a real danger therefore that any such utterance can be made as that a "deal" between these two forces may be in the offing.

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Chicago, Ill.

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Southern Drive Of CIO Appears To Be Dragging

The News

Nation's Leaders Praise Late CIO-PAC Chairman

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 7-20-46

The nation's outstanding Negro leaders including many CIO and AFL officials —from extreme left to conservative — were unanimous in praising the late Sidney Hillman for his record in the struggle for minority rights.

Congressman A. Clayton Powell declared that "the passing of Mr. Hillman must take its place as a national tragedy by the side of the passing of Mr. Roosevelt." Powell added, "Just as we who believe in Mr. Roosevelt dedicated ourselves to keeping alive his spirit, now we must rededicate ourselves to keeping alive the spirit of Mr. Hillman."

Henry Lee Moon, assistant to the chairman, CIO-PAC, reviewed Hillman's fight with Bilbo and stated, "He helped in the formulation of the Roosevelt policy which created the FEPC. He was foe to all restrictive measures aimed at minorities."

Walter White, secretary, NAACP, in a message to Mrs. Hillman said, "The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sends you most profound sympathy . . . Few men in America's history have been subjected to such criticism because of place of birth and race. . . . We mourn his passing not only for you but for all of America."

Phillip Weightman, International vice president, UPWA, said, "With the passing of Sidney Hillman, the American people lost a leader who envisioned the day when all people, regardless of race, could enjoy the social and economic benefits that they deserve."

Ishmael Flory

Ishmael Flory, founder of Joint Council Dining Employes, AFL, former international representative UMMSW-CIO, and Legislative Director of Chicago's South Side Communist party, said that "Hillman did much to make American workers conscious of political action—away from old parties and for their interests as a class."

Eugene Kinkle Jones, general secretary of the Urban League, in a message to Mrs. Hillman, averred, "The cause of Democracy everywhere and particularly American minorities have lost a great champion. . . ."

Alfred McPherson, International Representative UERM-CIO, viewed Hillman's death as "a loss to the working people of the world . . . and a friend of all races. . . ."

Southern Drive Of CIO Appears To Be Dragging

The News

Operation Dixie Is Not Getting Results Expected At Start

Birmingham, Ala.
Sun. 9-1-46

BY VICTOR RIESEL
Labor News Specialist

FROM WHERE I SIT, the CIO's Southern drive for 1,000,000 new members appears to be slowing down.

Look at what happened in the atom-bomb town of Oak Ridge, Tenn. The CIO set up an atomic workers' organizing committee, published The Atomic Worker, an exciting tabloid newspaper, and skillfully used all the modern propaganda techniques for which it is famous. Yet in the NLRB election, when about 20,000 atom splitters employed in those three Oak Ridge bomb plants voted for a union to speak for them, they voted more heavily for the staid AFL than the militant CIO. In the third plant, where the people didn't like the AFL, the crew voted against all unions rather than be represented by the CIO.

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Sat. 9-14-46

The CIO organizers were very sensitive to the Defender's recent criticism of the paucity of Negro organizers in "Operation Dixie." They felt that the Defender was a little unfair. They pointed out that the problems of organizing Negro and white are numerous, that they are doing the best they can. I bumped into no overt prejudice against Negroes. One or two people were very liberal and concerned.

The general attitude was this and it was stated to me by practically all those I talked with: "We are out to do a job. We have to organize the workers in Southern industry. Everyone is a worker to us. We are not making any distinctions as to color or other group origin. We are going to do the job."

"Operation Dixie" should be given every encouragement. Education inside the unions is coming. The CIO rank and file North and South should watch carefully against "deals" with the Talmadge type. About 60,000 workers have been organized into CIO a few weeks ago, since the drive opened early in the summer. On the da[y] ... announced that 71 Southern employe groups had won collective bargaining rights. Progress is being won in Dixie, but it must be guarded and extended.

DISSENSION IN THE CIO

The Times, New York, N.Y.

Having swept the issue of Communist infiltration conveniently under the bed with a modest resolution condemning it, the CIO convention in Atlantic City proceeded to more congenial topics. The declaration of policy, unanimously adopted, condemns "efforts by the Communist party or any other political parties" to interfere in CIO affairs. Actually, it merely advertised an internal Left-Right struggle within the organization which promises to become more intense as time passes.

The method by which the declaration was drafted is instructive. It was framed by a six-man committee, three representing the views of the "Right" and three those of the "Left," one of the latter being an admitted member of the Communist party. Their combined effort contained nothing w[hich] could be greatly displeasing to ei[ther] side. However, it gave Philip Murr[ay], head of the CIO, an opportunity [to] say the declaration "answers slanders in the public press that the CIO is Communist dominated."

It isn't, of course. Its rank and file are good Americans who abhor economic serfdom in any guise. Its top leadership, in the main, is distinctly

anti-Communist, more anxious than ever to rid the organization of any Communist taint. Mr. Murray is vigorously opposed to communism. His own union, the Steel Workers, is free of it. But it is not denied that some of the strongest of the CIO unions have been captured or are at present controlled by Communists or close fellow travelers. Sat. 11-23-46

In recent months rank and file revolts have been breaking out against this party-line leadership. It is hard to get rid of, from the bottom, because the Communists are good organizers and tireless union workers. It is hard to eliminate from the top because of fears that the national organization may be disrupted. Nevertheless, the movement appears to be growing and is bound to affect the future course of the CIO. In Atlantic City the matter was merely side-stepped.

Transport Union Signs Equal Rights Contract

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 10-26-46

CHICAGO—(ANP)—For the second time within a year United Transport Service Employes, CIO, has signed a contract giving Negro and white railroad station employes in the Deep South equal protection and equal opportunity for advancement.

Highlights of the contract recently signed by the Memphis Union State Company and Local 67, UTSE-CIO, are: elimination of group preference, improved grievance machinery and adjustment to particular needs of the station workers involved.

As in previous negotiations with the Savannah Union Station Company employes under similar jurisdiction likewise include red caps, ticket sellers, ticket examiners, gatemen, nformation bureau and clerical workers, typists, calculating machine, telephone, switchboard and elevator operators, office boys, messengers, parcel room, baggage and mail department employes, janitors and matrons.

NEW SYSTEM

Basis of the new contract is that originally negotiated by the terminal company and the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, which services its Negro members in a jim-crow auxiliary. Under the former setup, white employes enjoyed seniority and preference of Group 1; Negroes were relegated to the status of Group 2 and Group 3 employes.

Jobs now will no longer be allocated on a ratio basis, but will be classified according to departments and no department may encroach on another in seniority.

Formerly covering all clerical forces of the Louisville and Nashville railroad company system, the new contract is drawn up to fit specifically Memphis station employes. James Whittley, president, Local 67; Henry White, grievance chairman; C. R. Poston and T. W. Winchester, assistant to the international president, negotiated the contract, which becomes effective as of Nov. 1.

Southern Union Elects Negroes

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

HIGH POINT, N. C., Nov. 20.—The convention of the CIO United Furniture Workers District Five, held here last week, elected two Negroes to its staff of four officers, condemned red-baiting raids by the AFL Upholsterers Union and initiated a campaign for a relief fund for the 1,200 Thomasville, N. C., workers, now in their 17th week of strike.

Thurs. 11-21-46

New district leaders included H. D. Bass of Thomasville, president; J. T. Tharrington, Negro, of Henderson, N. C., vice-president; A. C. Emerson of Martinsville, Va., secretary-treasurer; and Johnnie Mae Joyner, Negro woman of Thomasville, recording secretary. These officers with an elected delegate from each local constitute the executive committee.

Negro Tobacco Workers Target of CIO Campaign

Charlotte, June 19. —(AP)— The CIO announced plans today for a campaign to organize 50,000 Negro tobacco workers in the Wilson-Rocky Mount area of North Carolina.

At the same time, George Baldanzi, vice-chairman of the CIO Southern Organizing Committee, established headquarters here to take active direction of the membership drive in the two Carolinas. He said he would be here indefinitely or "until everything is organized."

The two previously appointed directors—William Smith for North Carolina and Franz Daniel of Spartanburg for South Carolina—will be responsible to Baldanzi, who is executive vice-president of the Textile Workers Union of America. The three will meet tomorrow to further plans for the campaign in South Carolina.

"We are vitally interested in developing constructive labor-management relationships," Baldanzi said. "We want to work out collective bargaining agreements containing the principle of arbitration in order to assure stable relationships."

Smith said the tobacco workers campaign would be directed by R. C. Thomas, formerly of Erwin, and that six organizers, including three Negroes, to be assigned to the job would work in close cooperation with the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America.

The names of three of the organizers were announced by Smith as W. B. Thompson, William Deberry, Negro, and Elijah Jackson, Negro. The others will be assigned by the tobacco workers union within the next few days.

Jackson will be in charge of the Negro organizers. A member of the Shipbuilding Workers Union, he has worked in some of the CIO's biggest shipyard campaigns in the South, including those at Mobile, Wilmington and Savannah. Deberry, a native of Memphis, organized the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in Winston-Salem and the Buckeye Cotton Oil Company and the Ralston Purina Company feed mills in Charlotte.

Mrs. Ruth Gettinger of Charlotte has been appointed public relations director for the drive.

SILVER WORKERS ARE ORGANIZED

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) Two organizations representing West Indiana and Panamanians now residing in the United States have announced their approval of the organization of 20,000 "silver" workers in the Panama Canal Zone by the CIO United Public Workers, it was announced last Tuesday.

Dr. A. George Daly and Herman P. Osborne, chairman and secretary, respectively, of the West Indies Conference Committee, in a communication to CIO President Phil Murray, stated that "on behalf of the long-suffering, besieged West Indian Negro Workers and their descendants, the so-called 'silver' employees of the Panama Canal . . . we send you sincere thanks and profound appreciation for the steps now being taken by the CIO to bring relief and some definite measure of social and economic justice into the parched lives of their kinsfolk working and living for all of forty years on the Canal Zone.

Tues. 12-10-46

Humanity Applauded

"Apparently, the American Government has long since forgotten the historical contribution which these workers have made, and are still making, to the prosperity of the Panama Canal enterprise and the security of this nation. We applaud your fine sense of humanity and high-minded leadership."

Noel Austin, president of the United Sons of the Canal Zone, Inc., stated in a cable to President Murray: "May self-determination and spiritual guidance lead you and your members to assist in solving and adjusting some of the injustices imposed on the oppressed workers on the Canal Zone."

The UPW is engaged in a campaign to secure an adequate wage and retirement system for "silver" workers, the majority of whom average no more than 25 cents an hour and who are confronted with extremely vicious practices of discrimination.

UE Local Elects Negro President

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Sat. 11-23-46

The first Negro president of a UE-CIO local in New York was elected yesterday when Machine and Instrument Local 1227 ballots revealed a majority of more than 300 for Edward Washington. The local has a membership of 3,500 in Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn, with Negroes constituting 20 percent of the membership.

Prior to his election, Washington had been shop chairman in the Glosack Machine Products Corp., and served two terms as vice presi-

A popular Queens community leader, Washington ran for City Council in 1945 with American Labor Party endorsement. He was also president of the Pointer Democratic Club and a member of the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

Elected with Washington were

CIO Convention Endorses Equality Fight

Sat. 12-7-46

The Louisiana Weekly

(By The Associated Negro Press) [illegible] Nathan Daniel and Gus Mackerson, vice presidents; Benedict Hashmall, recording secretary; Hats Schuttig, financial secretary; James Thenz, activities director; James Garry, Sid. Sidney Gilbert, William Roberts and Ruth Stevens, business agents, an executive board of nine members; [illegible] Washington defeated his opponent, Joseph Governale, 1,059 to 752, [illegible] and four trustees.

21L 1946

Joe Louis Greets CIO Vet Rally

LANSING, Mich., Feb. 11.—Ex-Sgt. Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion sent a message of support to the CIO-Vet conference here yesterday. Louis stated:

"I wish to personally thank and commend the UAW-CIO veterans' division for its efforts to gain for returning veterans a greater share of security for which they fought.

"Labor is the vanguard of democracy. We hope that our legislators will support your efforts for veterans of our state of Michigan."

CIO Opposes Alabama "White Supremacy" Bill

BIRMINGHAM — (ANP) — The Congress of Industrial Organizations here has gone on record of opposing the adoption of the Boswell Amendment, characterized as the "white supremacy vote bill," next November.

The amendment is openly supported by Gessner T. McCorvey, chairman of State Democratic Executive Committee, who has urged state democrats to recognize the U. S. Supreme Court ruling in regard to Negro voting rights. McCorvey is said to see in the Boswell Amendment sufficient protection to control and limit the Negro vote. The restriction of the "white supremacy vote bill" requires a voter to understand the Constitution as well as read and write it in English.

There are not enough qualified Negro voters to make any difference in election results, he said. He is opposed to divorcing of the party primary from state law and setting it up as a private club and urged that the system of voting be left as it is.

GIVES REGISTER POWER

Enactment of the "Boswell Amendment" will transfer the racial ballot bar from the primary to registrars, progressive leaders said. It will pave the way for the removal of the poll tax, which will enable disfranchised white citizens to vote but will still be an instrument to restrict Negro voters.

While a meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee is planned here on Jan. 12 to discuss the rights of Negro voters and the Boswell Amendment, no campaign has yet been launched by liberals to defeat its adoption in November.

Hog Butchers for the World

Time

With his convex profile and his horn-rimmed glasses, President Lewis J. Clark of the C.I.O. United Packinghouse Workers looks like the Caspar Milquetoast of U.S. labor. With his mere 200,000 members, many pulling at cross-purposes, he holds one of the shakiest of all union leaderships.

Chicago, Ill.

Yet it remained for mild, uncertain Lewis Clark to toss the year's toughest talk into the labor debate. When the Government seized the packing plants last week, to end a nine-day-old strike, Lewis Clark shouted: "A complete double cross. . . . The President of the U.S. has engaged in a strike-breaking action, the sole effect of which can be to play into the hands of the packers." *2-4-44*

For three tense days, Lewis Clark insisted that his workers would not go back. Here was a U.S. labor leader openly defying Government seizure; nobody quite knew what to do about rambunctious Mr. Clark. Then he relented. He watched the rival A.F. of L. union's President Earl Jimerson give in happily to the back-to-work order. He extracted the promise of help toward wage boosts from Agriculture Secretary Clinton Anderson and conferred with C.I.O. President Phil Murray (who apparently extracted a few promises of his own).

This week Lewis Clark led his men back to work. Housewives heaved a sigh of relief. So did farmers—the hog run, stopped at its peak, had backed up all over the Midwest, and grain for feeding was running low. So, too, did Lewis Clark's union.

Sired by Failure. Poor, proud, tough and relatively small, the packinghouse union was born in 1937 of the repeated failures of the A.F. of L. and independent unions to wring concessions from the "Big Four" packers (Swift, Armour, Cudahy & Wilson). At the core of its membership are Negro, Irish, Slav and Mexican knockers, hog-splitters, blood-catchers and miscellaneous workers who do the hard, dangerous, foul-smelling labor in the huge packing plants.

At the top sit President Clark, an ex-hog butcher, and his conservative fellow officers. They try to do the will of their tumultuous rank-&-file, keep the union's neck in and hold down its strong left wing (led by jut-jawed Director Herbert March of District 1), all at the same time.

Heartland of U.P.W.A. is Chicago's smoky, sprawling, brawling "back-of-the-yards" district. There, in ugly tenements filled with the odors of decay and burning hair, some 100,000 of the meatworkers live. Two forces unite them: the packing houses, and the Catholic Church.

In 1939, when racial antagonisms made the district doubly grim, Chicago's shrewd, liberal Auxiliary Bishop Bernard J. Sheil marshaled his stockyard priests to help a new-established Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council fight them down. Soon Bishop Sheil and his aides had playgrounds and young people's clubs going in place of gang fights. The Catholic Church now plays a major role in determining the sentiment of the district—the factor which, in the long run, may well determine the outcome of the dispute. But the Church has rivals: last week, while Catholic priests tramped with the U.P.W.A. pickets, a trailer from Communist Party headquarters fed the strikers coffee, doughnuts and copies of the *Daily Worker*.

Harris & Ewing

U.P.W.A.'s CLARK & AIDES*
What to do about him?

CIO Unions Make Democracy Work in Practice

Daily Worker
New York

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—CIO unions offer full protection to the rights of individual members and audit their expenditure of funds, it is shown by a survey released by the Department of Research and Education yesterday.

The survey of 36 affiliated unions in full. The other unions publish paid executive received $198,400 in shows that: condensations or summaries of their 1944. Figures for 1944 on the top salaries paid by the General Mo-

1—Restrictions on admission on 4. The rights of individual members are carefully protected by the President Wilson received $459,041 such grounds as race, color, sex bers are carefully protected by the CIO unions surveyed provide for or creed, for example, are not tol- constitutions of all unions affiliated in 1943. regular financial audits by a Certi- erated by any CIO union. Every with the CIO. Any one against whom charges are made is entitled fied Public Accountant. member of a CIO union has full to a full and fair hearing. Before any member can actually be ex- and equal voting rights.

2—The top officers of CIO unions pelled from a union, 33 CIO union manufacturers, as well as General are elected by the members or their constitutions stipulate that he shall Motors, is paid $9,000 a year. representatives who are chosen for be given the right to appeal to the 6. CIO union initiation fees gen- this task. With one exception, these convention. erally range from $2 to $10 and a elections are conducted every year 5. Two-thirds of all CIO unions great majority of the members pay or every two years (one union pay top salaries of less than $6,000 a less than $5. Some of the largest elects its president every three year and a majority of the unions unions set a $2 or $3 maximum limit years). pay a top salary of $100 a week or on initiation fees.

3—The convention, the supreme legislative body for CIO unions, is made up of delegates chosen by the membership. These conventions are held either annually or bien- nially in 34 of the 36 unions sur- veyed (the other two hold conven- tions every three years).

R. J. THOMAS' SALARY

Some of the larger unions pay less. the salaries paid to the heads of worthwhile to contrast these with dues. About half of the dues is re- slightly higher salaries, but it is union officers bargain:

7. The great majority of CIO workers pay dues of $1.50 or less a month. Several of the larger unions pay $1 on monthly dues. About half of the dues is retained by the locals, while the other half goes to the national office. These modest amounts cover all negotiations, made the words, "Thomas Is Our Leader." Later, the UAW got it and changed it to "Lewis Is Our Leader."

Convention sessions are open to the public and convention proceed- ings of 31 CIO unions are published.

Bethlehem Steel, for example, paid collective bargaining a top salary of $221,645 in 1944; strike benefits, publication Westinghouse Electric's highest journals, campaigns to ob-

UAW's Theme Song Taken From Spiritual 'Jesus Is Our Leader'

DETROIT—Ace Federal la- bor conciliator, J. F. Dewey, re- vealed here last week that the song chanted by auto union workers, "Thomas Is Our Lead- er," was born out of a spiritual he heard sung years ago in the South.

The words sung to the spirit- ual went, "Jesus is our leader, we shall not be moved." Dewey said he told John L. Lewis about it and that mine union men changed it to "Lewis Is Our Leader."

Later, the UAW got it and changed the words, "Thomas Is Our Leader."

CIO Rejects Group Headed by Powell

WASHINGTON

Van A. Bittner, director of the "million-dollar compaign" of the CIO, recently denounced the New York group, "Help Organize the South," headed by Rep. Adam C. Powell Jr., because the "so-called organization" has no connection with the CIO."

In a letter to N. Moran Weston, co-ordinator of the group, Bittner stated that "your so-called organization has no connection with the CIO. We do not need any money. We will tolerate no interference from organizations outside of CIO."

Bittner wrote the letter after he had seen letter-heads of the group listing names of CIO officials as sponsors of the organization.

ACCEPTS NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT OF UAW

Walter P. Reuther is lifted on the shoulders of delegates after he was named as candidate at convention in Atlantic City.

THOMAS ACCUSES RIVAL OF AFL PLOT

Charges Reuther Connives With Dubinsky to Lead the Auto Workers Out of CIO

By WALTER W. RUCH
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 24—R. J. Thomas, international president of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, accused Walter P. Reuther, vice president and contender for the union presidency, tonight of conniving with David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, to lead the UAW into the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Thomas, in an interview at which he answered charges made last night at the rally where Mr. Reuther consented to run for the presidency of the largest union in the world, characterized his opponent as a "dupe" who would betray his followers if elected.

The burly president, hard put to suppress his anger, accused Mr. Reuther of starting the General Motors strike too early and settling it too late, and of taking his own time and that of his staff during the strike to engineer a "phoney" draft movement to bring him into the presidential race.

Reuther Calls Charges "Lies"

Mr. Reuther told reporters immediately after their talk with Mr. Thomas that the president's accusations were "contemptible lies" produced by a "petty kind of very little mind."

On the other hand, Mr. Reuther admitted that his demand, made prior to and early in the General Motors strike, that the corporation open its books so as to provide a means of determining its ability to pay "was just a maneuver to win public support and to get the company over a barrel." He added that Mr. Thomas knew that very well.

Mr. Thomas, prior to meeting the press, issued a statement in which he said he welcomed the opportunity of a contest between the record of the union under his leadership and the "proposed experiments of Walter Reuther." The auto workers, he said, would now have a chance to decide whether they wished "cooperative teamwork between the rank and file and elected officials or the personal leadership philosophy of my opponent."

Amazing Tale Unfolded

As he talked with reporters, Mr. Thomas unfolded an amazing tale of what, if true, would seem to reveal an almost total absence of corrdination at the top level of leadership in the UAW.

He recalled that the meeting of the international executive board in Flint, Mich., last September the decision to seek a wage increase of 30 per cent from the industry was reached and a strike strategy committee appointed and empowered to call a strike against any company at any time.

The following day, he said, Mr. Reuther returned to Detroit, without prior consultation with the board or the strike strategy committee, to meet with representatives of the UAW locals in GM plants. It was through this ex parte means, Mr. Thomas said, that Mr. Reuther and his General Motors department decided that GM would be the first to be attacked.

Armed with this fait accompli, Mr. Reuther returned to the strike strategy committee to tell what had been done.

Learned It In Newspapers

"I learned of it first in the newspapers," Mr. Thomas said. "That's the way Walter works. You see, we couldn't then disavow the action, because we would have been undercutting the General Motors Workers. So we had to go along."

Mr. Thomas said that during the strike "every single staff member" under Mr. Reuther was out "beating the bushes" in the interest of his chance for election to the presidency.

"His staff considered that much more important than helping to win the GM strike."

He criticized Mr. Reuther for having "a big show" for the occasion in New York, when Mr. Dubinsky, on behalf of the ILGWU, presented the GM strike fund with checks totaling $86,000.

"The steelworkers gave $100,000; the clothing workers gave $100,000; the fur workers gave $25,000, and other CIO unions gave substantial sums at a time when 1,250,000 members of the CIO were on strike. There wasn't any show for them."

Then Mr. Thomas recounted that Mr. Reuther on several occasions during the strike had criticized [illegible] for not giving complete support while AFL unions were coming to the aid of needy strikers.

False Story Charged

Mr. Thomas accused Mr. Reuther of spreading a false story that Philip Murray had knocked down the increase the GM strikers could have won by telling the fact-finding panel appointed by President Truman that the United Steel Workers of America could never hope to win the amount reported then to have been under consideration for the UAW—24½ per cent. Ultimately, they got 17 per cent, or 18½ cents.

Mr. Thomas scoffed at Mr. Reuther's "abilitiy to pay" theory, adding that it had "got us into quite serious difficulties with other unions."

"Ford, for example, offered to show us their books if we would consider ability to pay the principle. We'd certainly have been in a jam on that. They were losing $30,000,000 a year; so, instead of getting an increase, we'd have got a decrease.

"Why, adoption of the ability to pay theory would have resulted in the most chaotic wage situation anyone can conceive in the auto industry. Our traditional theory is like pay for like work. His theory would have knocked that into a cocked hat."

Would Cause Wage Cuts

Mr. Thomas said that under ability to pay, wage cuts would have had to be taken from Studebaker, Willys-Overland, Hudson and the automotive end of Nash-Kelvinator, among others.

"It would have denied a wage increase to tens of thousands of thousands of workers."

He accused Mr. Reuther of having surrounded himself with a "brain trust," no member of which belonged to the UAW or could tell the "difference between an exhaust and a fender."

Mr. Thomas outlined various methods by which pressure against General Motors could have been increased, only to be vetoed by Mr. Reuther, and asserted that the strike could have been settled on Feb. 13 on the same terms as were granted on March 13.

"Mr. Thomas, do you think that Mr. Reuther, if elected, will attempt to lead the UAW into the AFL?" a reporter asked.

"Yes," Mr. Thomas blurted out. Then he paused for a moment after which he said:

"I think he is likely to lead us into the AFL. Dave Dubinsky, after all, is his great white father."

Asked whether, if re-elected president, he would then support Mr. Reuther for vice president, Mr. Thomas again paused before replying.

"I have been the exponent of the status quo. He started this thing with his phoney campaign movement. He started it, and if I am elected president, I'll follow him right down the line and i'll even try to keep him from being a shop steward."

Southern Workers Will Welcome CIO

Daily Worker New York.
Editor, Daily Worker:

I've just returned from an extended visit to the South and want to tell you that the Daily Worker is once again commanding the attention of wide sections of the people. It has the wholesome punch which it had lost for a while.

It is really heartening to travel through the South these days. The people there are beginning to question the authority of the Bourbons. The projected organizational campaign of the CIO has been received with a great deal of enthusiasm by the workers of the South.

They feel that such a drive can spell the end of the reactionary rule of those forces who employ the KKK thugs and other un-American elements to suppress the masses of Negro and white workers.

The labor movement in an organized South would not long tolerate the shameful Jimcrow system nor the lynching of fellow-unionists.

The CIO's drive will be the most significant event in the South since the Civil War. T. L. C.

Hotel Bars Negroes; CIO Shifts Meeting

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—Staff officials of Southern CIO - TWUA workers announced this weeek cancellation of their conference meeting at the Wade Hampton Hotel here when hotel officials announced Negroes attending the conference would be denied admission and use of hotel facilities. The conference was scheduled for June 10-11. Efforts to locate another site were in progress early in the week.

Negro Seniority Issue Referred

The question of preferential seniority for Negro workers has been referred to a government agency in a contract just signed at the Sperry Gyroscope Co., covering approximately 5,000 CIO workers.

UE Local 450 had proposed that traditional seniority be modified to permit maintenance of the Negro-white ratio of employment. At the rate layoffs were being scheduled, it was feared that Sperry would revert to Jimcrow conditions because Negroes were the last hired.

The contract gives an across-the-board 10-cents an hour raise and establishes a fund based on an additional five-cent an hour average raise from which inequities will be adjusted.

REUTHER NAMED UAW PRESIDENT IN CLOSE VOTING

R. J. Thomas Is Defeated But Gives Pledge Of Cooperation

BY FELIX B. WOLD

ATLANTIC CITY, March 27—(AP)—Walter P. Reuther was elected president of the United Auto Workers (CIO) at a boisterous climax of the union's convention today.

The 38-year-old labor leader, whose role in the national labor scene may be a vital one, defeated R. J. Thomas, incumbent, NAW president, in a rollcall ballot marked by fights and melees among delegates.

An unofficial count gave: Reuther, 4,266; Thomas, 4,108.

Reuther's election after a neck and neck race was formally announced by Secretary-Treasurer George F. Addes, who presided over the rollcall of the nearly 2,000 delegates.

A moment later Reuther and Thomas shook hands as delegates in which Reuther had resquently had resorted to personalities and then to invective.

Reuther had rushed across the stage to his rival, offering his hand. In losing, Thomas relinquished his seat as the head of the union which he had held for six years from the time the auto workers had reorganized under the CIO and set out to become a foremost influence in American labor.

"It was a good race," said Thomas, tears in his eyes.

"We'll work together, Tommy," reorganized under the CIO and set out to become a foremost influence in American labor.

The decision climaxed a battle

'In the South ... We Want to Walk With Our Heads Up'

P.M. New York, N.Y.

Staff Correspondence

Eule McGill

Ernie Wright

Mrs. Alda Cornuaud

Mrs. Latane Lambert

These workers from the South are sold on the CIO's "Operation Dixie."

ATLANTIC CITY, May 8.—Rank and file members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO, from Southern states spoke up at the union's convention here yesterday and told their top officers why Southern workers had to be organized. The convention had before it a resolution pledging Amalgamated support for "Operation Dixie"—the Southern organizing drive of the CIO. Wed. 4-8-46

Jacob S. Potofsky, secretary-treasurer, urged passage of the resolution. He told of the "old feudal overlordship which still reigns supreme" over millions of Southern workers. In the cotton garment, textile, lumber, and other industries he said, a combination of "carpetbagger employers" and "native exploiters" think "it is their God-given right to exploit poor whites and Negroes alike."

Then the rank and filers, Amalgamated organizers who have worked in the South, officers of Southern locals took over.

¶ Eule McGill, who works in a shop in LaFollette, Tenn., wanted everybody to know that there are unions in the South, that those unions have done things.

"Driving through the South it seems that every Southern town has a shirt factory," she said. "They pay 40 cents an hour, but only because the minimum wage law says they must. And the unions brought that law. It used to be they didn't pay anything while you were learning. You were a 'learner.' I worked six weeks without pay to learn and then my first pay was $6.40 for 60 hours' work. But they don't do that any more because some Southern plants have been organized."

¶ Ernie Wright remembers when cotton garment factory workers in New Orleans worked for 6, 7, or 8 cents an hour.

"Southern workers feel they are part of the Nation, a great, a rich Nation," he said. "We feel we should be able to earn a decent living in America. We have the hands that built the South, the hands that tilled the soil of the South, that created wealth.

"We workers in the South are ready. We want to walk with dignity, walk with our heads up."

¶ Mrs. Alda Mae Cornuaud, who works in a Dallas, Tex., pants factory and is president of her local, admitted she was frightened talking to so many people so far from home. Unless unorganized plants are unionized, she warned, the few unions in the South will be wiped out. Wed. 4-8-46

"The workers are hungry for unions to help them; you-all must help them," she said.

¶ Mrs. Latane Lambert, of Dallas, Tex., a distinctly good-looking person who has organized clothing and cotton garment workers and nut pickers all through Texas, and who has helped in almost every CIO effort in the State, warned that "Operation Dixie" isn't going to be a "cozy little affair."

Mrs. Lambert added, with a charming grin, "and while we are organizing, we will also do something definite about political reaction in Texas." Wed 4-9-46

CIO Leader Says Union Must Lick Ku Klux Klan

Montgomery Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 16—(AP)—Van A. Bittner, director of the CIO organization drive in the South, declared today that "if we can't lick the Ku Klux Klan the CIO might just as well quit forever.

Bittner, assistant to Philip Murray, president of the CIO United Steel Workers, told the union's third biennial convention that the Klan was organizing to defeat the CIO in its efforts to unionize southern workers. Fri. 5-17-46

"We thrive on opposition," Bittner said in support of a convention-adapted resolution pledging the steel workers to back the CIO campaign in the South.

The steel workers already have contributed $200,000 to the campaign which Murray said now has a $1,250,000 fund. 5-19-46

DANGEROUS TALK IN ANDALUSIA

In the nation-wide struggle between management and labor, South Alabama's focal point of danger seems to be the beautiful little city of Andalusia, in Covington County. A bitter struggle is on there as CIO leaders endeavor to organize the textile mills headed by J. G. Scherf, who also is the Mayor of Andalusia. Advertiser

Mayor Scherf's resistance is strong, and apparently he is backed by most of the business and professional interests of his city. Montgomery, Ala.

The National Association of Manufacturers has stepped into the picture by running large advertisements in local newspapers. The two newspapers have been vocal in their opposition to the labor movement. All of this is more or less to be expected, for it is natural that labor should be opposed by those who believe their interests will be made to suffer under organization of the workers. And this opposition is entirely legitimate—up to a point. Last week there was evidence that at least some elements in Andalusia's defense against organized labor was, in fact, going beyond the limits of decency. Mon 5-13-46

In an editorial headed, "The Ku Klux Is Bound To Come Back," The COVINGTON NEWS made a suggestion that will not find favor with any American citizen who believes in fair play. The NEWS said:

As much as all of us hate to admit it, the possibility of the Ku Klux Klan being re-hashed and reorganized in the South is more of a probability now than a possibility. The people of the South are just not going to take this CIO laying down. Laws hastily passed by a Congress that didn't weigh all the consequences are highly favorable to labor while the public's interest was not protected at the same time. Labor has taken every advantage of these laws to flout the American public in the face. Look at Petrillo, John L. Lewis and his ilk. To our way of thinking, which we admit at times is bordering on the extreme, such men as these should be placed in complete charge of some South Pacific Atoll by themselves for they are really men without countries. It might take the Ku Klux Klan to straighten them out unless the oncoming elections take care of the matter . . .

Most Americans, the Advertiser included, will be in agreement with Editor Joe Jones when he expresses impatience with the excesses of Petrillo and Lewis. Yet few who love democracy are ready to call on the hood, the fiery cross, and the lash as a means of halting the legal efforts of any group of fellow Americans.

The United States Supreme Court has determined, wisely we believe, that organized labor has certain inalienable rights under the Constitution just as management has certain inalienable rights. America is having severe distress today in the determination of these separate rights under law, but we came through a similar period of stress following World War I, and we should have faith that temperate, fair-minded Americans will come through the stress safely once more. Mon 5-13-46

No community can gain anything in permanent peace and good will by using fear and violence against a part of its citizenship. Employment of Ku Klux Klan threats and other methods of un-American pressure is an invitation to troubles going far beyond the present strike problem in Andalusia.

'Stay Out,' Eastland Tells CIO Group

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
June 5-19-46

Denouncing the group as communistic, Eastland harped on the old bugaboo of communism in a labor organization, and said he was not opposed to the CIO the CIO is entirely Communist-tries dominated," he said. "Our organ-ization will be aimed at the CIO and its Communist leaders."

Sen. James O. Eastland, Democrat, has warned the CIO drive in Mississippi, has warned that if it tries looking for trouble if it tries to extend its organizing campaign into Mississippi.

Eastland said "an organization has been set up to handle any knocking of heads in Mississippi. He promised, however, that workers in his State will be "educated" against the CIO. Wed 5-19-46

Eastland Furious, Denounces CIO as Committee Setup

WASHINGTON (UP)—In a blustery radio interview last Saturday, Senator James O. Eastland of Mississippi told his constituents that the CIO would be met by a prepared group when it came into his State to organize labor.

Eastland Tells CIO Group 'Stay Out'

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
June 5-19-46

WASHINGTON, May 18—(UP)—Sen. James O. Eastland, Democrat, has warned the CIO drive in Mississippi, has warned that if it tries looking for trouble if it tries to extend its organizing campaign into Mississippi.

Eastland said "an organization has been set up to handle any knocking of heads in Mississippi. He promised, however, that workers in his State will be "educated" against the CIO. Wed 5-19-46

Communist in the CIO that comes to Mississippi." He did not name the organization.

"I have reason to believe that the CIO is entirely Communist-tries dominated," he said. "Our organization will be aimed at the CIO and its Communist leaders."

"I do not believe the CIO drive will have any success in the State. Communists."

The Enemies of The CIO

Black Dispatch

The Black Dispatch does not want to wait until the campaign for votes gets under way and issues are so confused and so sharply drawn that Negro masses are unable to see the light of truth. We fear if we do not speak now about some of the budding issues thousands of Negroes will be misled. Already smoke screens are being thrown up in both the Republican and Democratic parties to obscure from public view the reactionary motives of evil forces, and it is this subtle attempt to deceive that must be attacked now.

Take the torrent of discussion about the CIO. One would assume a great disaster was coming to the nation because the Congress of Industrial workers is seeking to do political organization work in the South. The CIO is a union of laborers. It represents the rapidly increasing liberal workers groups that includes the black man on an equal basis with all other units of labor. The organization plans to spend several million dollars down in Dixie this year educating workers respecting the use of ballot rights. It was this organization that did such a good job supporting the late President Roosevelt in the last election. The current drive is to educate, organize and enfranchise millions of both black and white below the Mason and Dixon line, who have hitherto had little opportunity to influence government.

The CIO believes in the abolition of the poll tax. It believes in the enactment of legislation which will guarantee full employment and fair employment. It supports programs having to do with health, housing, extension of price controls, equalization of educational opportunities for all, enactment of a 65c minimum wage scale, and many other progressive measures of kindred nature. During this campaign, whenever you hear speakers shouting about the Political Action Committee and the CIO, just remember that these organizations stand for the above constructive program in American life. The black man cannot afford to allow any individual or organization to cloud his vision during the oncoming campaign. *Oklahoma City, Okla.*

Recent happenings should offer conclusive evidence as to the virtue and value of the CIO to every black worker. It was the CIO that stood like a brick wall during the war, insisting that the Negro worker get recognition in the realm of gainful employment, and because of the influence of the CIO thousands of Negro men and women for the first time in their lives received adequate and fair wages. The prosperity existing in the Negro community today in America stems from the fine spirit generated by the CIO in giving the black worker an even break in the industrial establishment. Remember this, when reaction in the Republican and the Democratic party attempt to throw stench bombs at Sidney Hillman and other leaders of this militant labor organization.

Just last week, Carroll Reece, stooge of Boss Ed Crump down in Tennessee, and the recently elected Republican national chairman, began to throw fetor and funk all over the CIO. When one turns to the Democratic party there is immediate discovery that Rankin, Bilbo and all of the reactionary Southerners are alarmed that Dixie whites and blacks are to be organized in labor unions and educated respecting voting techniques. It ought to be easy of discernment that reactionaries in both the two major parties are opposed to the advent of Sidney Hillman and his righteous legions down among the magnolias. *Sat 4-27-46*

Now why should Negroes not only welcome but join the CIO when it arrives down in Dixie? There are many sound reasons why this should be done. First of all because the CIO believes in fair employment. Traditionally, Negroes receive less money for doing the same task as white people in the South. Negro women, who have been receiving from $2 to $3 per week for labor, and Negro men whose base salary has been from $15 to $18 per week, should welcome a worker's organization which openly says there should be no differentials in employment based upon color or race. The reactionary crowd shouts falsely that the CIO is communistic, but sensible Negroes should have enough mother-wit to stick with this alleged type of communism. It might more aptly be called Christianity or brotherhood, but let reaction call it communism if it pleases; but if it takes communism to snatch young Negro girls away from prostitution, and Negro manhood from frustration, let us welcome communism with open arms. It is unfortunate that those who would lure us now, clothed in the garments of friendship and good will, should advise that the instrumentality bringing Negro workers, for the first time in history, salary stipends of $50, $60 and $70 per week, is a political organization known as communism.

Of course all of that sort of gush coming from the traditional enemies of free labor is tommy-rot. There are doubtless some communists in the ranks of the CIO just as there are a few of the same political faith registered in the Republican and Democratic parties. There are a few bootleggers, prostitutes and gamblers holding membership in the church, but that disclosure should not cause one to leave the church. It should have the opposite effect, causing church members to fight harder in the church.

But most of all, and that is the reason why reaction fights Sidney Hillman, the CIO-PAC is educating poor whites in the South regarding their greatest handicap—racial prejudice. The educational program of the CIO is teaching the working-class white man that he can never be secure down in Dixie so long as a destitute black man stands on the outside the door of America's industrial establishment. This sort of gospel spells the doom of landlordship and minority group control in the South. That is why the Ellenders, the Talmadges and the Bilbos fight the CIO. Whenever the day comes when the white and black masses unite down in Dixie, whenever collective bargaining secures the same firm footing below the Mason and Dixon line, as in the North and East, that is the day when the white laborer will come into his own, hand in hand with his black brother.

Educational programs such as presented by the CIO are doing much to open the eyes of the white South. At the Mississippi bridge, where one crosses from Memphis into the Arkansas delta, one may stand in the early morning hours and observe white and Negro men and women drinking whiskey out of the same bottle while they wait to be transported to the cotton fields on the Arkansas side. When they leave for work, they depart in separate trucks because of the jim crow laws, with which reaction attempts to fool the poor whites, but when they arrive a few miles on the other side of West Memphis, these same white peons, taught to feel they are superior to the blacks, are dumped into the same cotton field where they hoe, plow and pick cotton beside the black worker the same number of back-breaking hours during the day, and for the same and identical pittance.

The CIO is preaching to this white worker that fundamentally his economic condition is identical with that of the blacks. He suffers from malnutrition, poor housing, lack of medical care and education on the same plane with the blacks, and that the only way to lift the standard of his existence will be to share advances with the black worker. Slowly but surely this vision and understanding is coming to the white worker. The vicious attack upon the CIO stems from knowledge that it is spreading truth and light in the pineywoods and Dixie swamps. *Sat 4-27-46*

It does not make any difference whether you live in Oklahoma, where the ballot is in the hands of black men, or whether you reside in Chicago, where one still has to fight segregation, the basic thing to do is get with that unit in American life that preaches human equality. The issues in the coming campaign are clear to any man who thinks. The challenge is to place yourself in the ranks of progress and advancement regardless of the anethma and hate cast upon the heads of those who point towards freedom and opportunity.

LICK 'EM OR QUIT'

Dixie Rivalry of Klan Draws CIO Defiance

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 16—(AP)—Van A. Bittner, Director of the CIO organizing drive in the South, declared Thursday that "if we can't lick the Ku Klux Klan the CIO might just as well quit forever."

Bittner, assistant to Philip Murray, President of CIO United Steel Workers, told the Union's third biennial convention that the Klan was organizing to defeat the CIO in its efforts to unionize Southern workers.

"We thrive on opposition," Bittner said in support of a convention-adopted resolution pledging the steel workers to back the CIO campaign in the South. *5-17-46*

The steel workers already have contributed $200,000 to the campaign which Murray said now has a $1,250,000 fund.

A CIO leader's assertion that the Ku Klux Klan was organizing to defeat the union in its efforts to organize Southern labor was denied by Dr. Samuel Green, Georgia Dragon, the Associated Press said in Atlanta Thursday. *Friday*

"The Klan has never fought organized labor," said Dr. Green, "But it has always fought Communism and so long as the CIO is infiltrated with Communists, the Klan will fight.

"The Klan has thousands of CIO members among its own members and naturally we are not pulling any fight on the brand of labor known as the CIO."

CIO Southern Drive Called "Kiss Of Death"

Journal and Guide, Va.

PETERSBURG, Va. (ANP)—Terming the CIO Political Action committee's organization drive in the south a "movement of carpetbaggers," Remmie L. Arnold, president of the Southern States Industrial council, last week distributed a pamphlet of criticism titled "The Kiss of Death." *Sat 5-25-46*

The movement, Arnold says, in a "kiss of death" to "all the South and the nation hold dear," and predicted dire results to the Negro who permits himself to be "used in this unholy effort."

The southern workman will suffer most from effects of the drive, according to Arnold, who feels the laborer will be the "chosen and favored beneficiary of all that socialism and communism can offer."

Southern-Born Negro Heads UE Local Here

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Dec. 12-3-46

By Bernard Burton

Edward Washington, recently elected first Negro president of a UE-CIO local in New York, is a modest, slightly built worker who came to New York from his native Charleston, S. C., at the age of 22. In the years that followed, Washington became an outstanding Queens community and church leader and, in 1945, was an independent candidate for City Council.

A soft-spoken man with a scholarly face, Washington disclaimed personal credit for his election to the highest office in Machine and Instrument Local 1227, which has 3,500 members, 20 percent of whom are Negroes.

He said his election was "no accident," but was due to the "progressive educational activities" conducted by Local 1227. Two other Negroes were elected with Washington; Claude Seymour to the executive board, and Claude Chamberlain as a trustee.

EDWARD WASHINGTON

Forty-five years old, Washington entered the trade union movement four years ago when he got a job as a milling machine operator, mainly through the efforts of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, which campaigned against discrimination in war production plants. Shortly after, he was employed by the Gussack Machine Products Corp., where he became shop chairman, a post which he still holds.

A trade union leader who is intimate with problems of his fellow unionists, Washington listed as the two main issues facing his local the winning of wage increases to meet the cost of living and the shortage of housing for workers. He spoke bitterly of the failure to provide homes for returned veterans.

A member of the executive board of UE District Council Four, largest CIO affiliate with 100,000 members in the metropolitan area, Washington was conscious of the overall questions faced by labor. He decried "attempts to divide workers politically" and was proud that "in our own UE" those who sought to "discredit Communist unionists" had been defeated.

A delegate to the last UE convention, Washington had helped rout the red-baiters who composed the UE Committee for Democratic Action. 12-3-46

Local 1227 holds contracts with 52 plants in Queens, Manhattan and Brooklyn, but its members are confident that their new president is the man who can handle the job which would be no cinch for a veteran unionist.

Washington, who lives with his wife and 15-year-old son at 164-23 109 Road, Jamaica, is an active figure both in and out of the union. A one-time president of the Pointer Democratic Association, he is now president of the Men's League of the Brooks Memorial Church.

Red Issue Eased At CIO Convention

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-23-46

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTIC CITY — The highly publicized "Communist issue," which hreatened to set off a bitter fight in the CIO's eighth annual convention now in session here, was averted last week when the union's top leadership adopted a policy statement rejecting interference from any political party in the affairs of the CIO.

The statement, pushed through the organization's 51-man executive board by CIO President Philip Murray aims to end—at least for the period of the convention—the bitter left versus right fight. The 600 delegates attending the convention are expected to adopt the resolution.

The resolution, however, does not bar Communists from membership nor legitimate trade union activity in the CIO.

Murray's annual report made to the convention on the opening day stressed the fact that the CIO was created to organize the unorganized and that "such work must never stop."

The resolution was made public by Murray at a pre-session conference following the meeting of the CIO executive committee on the eve of the convention. He said it had been unanimously accepted by the so-called "committee of six" appointed by him two days ago in an attempt to resolve the issue.

The statement makes no recommendation for drastic action against Communist "infiltrations" into CIO ranks. However, right wing groups in the CIO expressed themselves as very happy about it, because it gives them at least a talking point against left wing arguments. The right wingers also consider it significant that the statement was accepted by both pro-Communists and anti-Communists on the committee of six.

Named to study the problem of "Communism" in the CIO and its 40 affiliated unions were three known anti-Communists: Walter Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers; Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers, and Milton Murray, president of the American Newspaper Guild.

Chicago, Ill.
Left Represented Sat.

These were offset by three of the most prominent men identified with CIO's left wing. They are Michael Quill of the Transport Workers and City Councilman of New York City; Abram Flaxer, president of the United Public Workers, and Benjamin Gold of the Furriers. 11-23-46

Convention Puts Minority Rights High In Program

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-30-46

Southern Organizing Drive, Anti-Bias Stand Top Sessions

(See page 12 for convention photos)

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTIC CITY—Taking the bull of Southern Jim Crow by the horns in reaffirming its determination to organize Negro and white workers despite all obstacles, the Eighth CIO Constitutional Convention here last week served notice on employers that the union is prepared to wage a last ditch fight to end discrimination and secure a better living standard for Negro and white workers alike.

CIO President Philip Murray told the 600 delegates representing 40 unions and six million workers that the CIO would present employers with formal requests for wage increases and that there was nothing in the proposals which would agitate the inflationary trend in America.

Earlier in the convention, Murray made it plain that the organizing drive in the South would go on without interruption. Nothing under the sun including a reactionary Congress, is going to stop the drive, he said. His statement followed a full report on the drive by Van Bittner, director of Southern organization. Bittner revealed that the CIO has won 256 NLRB elections and lost 45. The union has 215 petitions already on file for additional elections, he continued.

Resolution Blasts Jim Crow

A sweeping non-discrimination resolution was passed by the convention, pledging itself to a continued fight for full democracy for all Americans. The resolution proposed by Bittner, took into account increasing injustices and brutality imposed on Negroes, especially in the South. Labeling Congress a forum for un-American hate declarations, the resolution called for special vigilance to protect and expand the doctrines of democracy.

Specifically, the resolution called on the U. S. Attorney General to prosecute all law officers and mobs who engage in terroristic acts against any American, and who seek to deprive any group of basic rights. It further demanded federal, state and local FEPC legislation, a federal anti-lynch bill, an anti-poll tax bill, and representation for the District of Columbia. The sweeping statement also called for state laws outlawing discrimination, an end to restrictive covenants, and federal state and local laws guaranteeing suffrage. The resolution followed a similar proposal for relief to Europe's suffering Jews.

The resolution which calls on the Republican Congress to make good its campaign promises, also demanded abolition of the infamous Wood-Rankin Un-American Activities Committee. It gave full backing to the Wagner-Ellender-Taft General Housing Bill, and called for the ousting of Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo from Congress.

The tone of the entire convention held a hopeful note for minorities, particularly for Negroes in the determination to press the Southern organizing drive and in the anti-discrimination platform adopted by unanimous vote. To implement its anti-bias stand, the convention voted for an expanded committee against discrimination. The enlarged committee will meet four times a year, and will take up all phases of Jim Crow in plants operating under CIO collective bargaining agreements.

Avoid Dispute

A move allegedly designed to throw the Committee to Abolish Discrimination into an area of dispute was side-tracked, when a majority of Negro delegates to the convention refused to go along with a proposal to ditch James B. Carey as chairman, and George L. P. Weaver as director. The move was spear headed by George Crockett, former executive director of the UAW Fair Practice Committee, who also called for an enlarged program.

Crockett's chief gripes were included in a letter to Willard Townsend, UTSEA head, and committee secretary. Townsend agreed to the expansion proposal, but he, along with some delegates, refused to take part in the ofist Party move.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Labor Pastor in Va. Aids Anti-Negro Minority, Defies Bishop

Sat.
The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

RICHMOND—The Rev. Charles C. Webber, chaplain to organized labor from the Methodist Church, has challenged the attempt of Bishop W. W. Peele to move him from Virginia on the ground that his (the minister's) life "had been threatened." 11-30-46

The Rev. Mr. Webber, who is also president of the State CIO Council and director of the CIO Political Action Committee in Virginia, reveals in a story in two of the church's publications, Zion's Herald and the Michigan Christian Advocate, that:

Bishop Peele "asked me to leave, however, not because my life was endangered, but because my union organizational work was, as he said, hurting the reputation of our Methodist Church."

Explaining his appointment, the minister states: "I am fully persuaded that . . . I help prevent another world-wide calamity—a calamity that may well bring destruction upon us all, when I, as a chaplain to organized labor—

"Bring to unorganized colored and white workers the moral sanction of the Methodist Church of both colored and white sizes, is that CIO unions have their efforts to organize, and ing at Grand Rapids recently, set "When I aid them, through collective bargaining, to end and are practicing economic and political brotherhood in their day-by-day activities."

Southerners Embarrassed

A foreword in the Michigan Advocate notes that: "White Methodists in the South have vigorously opposed the appointment (of the Rev. Mr. Webber) as an embarrassment to them.

"The Council of Bishops, meet-

CIO Council Leader Bars Negro Congress Support

Defender Chicago, Ill.
12-14-46

WASHINGTON—In a letter to the Los Angeles Industrial Union Council and the California State Industrial Union Council, John Brophy, national council director, recently ordered the two CIO affiliates to cease support of the National Negro Congress.

Brophy based his action, taken Nov. 26, on a rule adopted by the CIO executive board in the Atlantic City convention, prohibiting industrial union councils from backing organizations not endorsed by the National CIO. Brophy said the CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination, which is directed by George L. P. Weaver, advised him that the CIO has never endorsed the Congress, and that "from time to time the policies of the National Negro Congress are . . . in opposition to the policies of the CIO."

Officers of the National Negro Congress, meeting in New York, to plan organizational expansion, answered Brophy's move with a three-point statement emphasizing similarity between their program and that of the CIO. The statement also linked Negro progress with the trade union movement, adding that Brophy's action was based on a misunderstanding.

Has Supported CIO

The release stated in part that the National Negro Congress has supported the CIO and all progressive labor. It continued that the Congress has encouraged organization of Negro workers, and termed the interests of labor and the Negro as interdependent.

The second point referred to NNC support of price and rent control; adequate housing, and decent wages. Last point of the statement praised the CIO endorsement of the NAACP. According to Dr. Max Yergan, president, and Revels Cayton, executive secretary of the Congress, steps are being taken to discuss and clear up misunderstandings.

CIO Victories Mount In Dixie

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-14-46
Sat. 11-30-46

As Drive Enters Sixth Month

As CIO's Southern drive to free Negro and white workers from economic bondage entered its sixth month, last week victories in Dixie jurisdictional elections accelerated to two a day.

In 273 elections CIO had gained sole bargaining rights in 235 plants. The committee also has 206 petitions for certification pending before the National Labor Relations Board, as inexperienced organizers of last May became veterans in the battle for higher wages and improved working conditions.

Progress Gauge

Progress may be gauged, Van Bittner, director of the drive, believes, by the increasingly strong opposition of recent weeks. Vested interests who wish to keep Negro and white workers in bondage to a system which has caused the economic decay of the South, have turned old and new pressures to account. Nineteen union organizers were assaulted during the first four months of the campaign. Many were threatened with death. Two were amousned and shot at after they refused "to leave town."

Employers do not fight openly since the Wagner Act was passed—instead they use "outside help."

Weapons in their fight against CIO include tabloid newspapers, "The Militant Truth" and "The Trumpet" which attempt to propagandize workers to the effect that union membership for higher wages is "un-Christian and communistic." These two papers are published by Sherman Patterson and "Parson Jack" Johnston, and cover largely the eastern area under Bittner's committee.

Christian-American, Inc., belonging to Vance Muse and Lewis Valentine Unrey, cover the west and are equally strident in attacking CIO after appealing to fear of "equality" for Negroes. Several "independent" groups of business men have formed to fight unionization, too. Bittner reports that while in some areas they slow the drive, in others the obviousness of their method has actually assisted the organizers.

Townsend And Smith Elected To Board

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 11-30-46

By RAMONA LOWE

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—In the quietest convention of its history, the CIO reaffirmed its position on wages, discrimination, organization, social security, political action and the numerous questions pertinent to the problems of labor, and planned its program of action for its 16 million members for the next two years.

The attempt ot the very start on the part of the executive board to reduce friction over the Red issue by adopting a statement of policy resenting and rejecting Communist Party interference really resulted in the emasculation of the convention. Added to this was President Philip Murra 's gag rule that prevented full discussion needed on many issues.

BACKS CIVIL RIGHTS

Of specific interest to Negro workers, but v al to all, were resolutions on the protection of democracy and 'he right to vote. The first rededicates the organization to fight for full enjoyment of all rights by all Americans and calls upon the Attorney General to prosecute vigorously violators of the Civil Rights Act.

It demands the immediate enactment of effective Federal, State and municipal FEPC legislation, the outlawing of segregation in Washington, D. C., State and Federal legislation invalidating restrictive covenants, safeguards against racial discriminaton in Federal appropriations for State aid, and the removal of barriers that exclude Negro reporters from Congressional press galleries.

John L. Yancey and George Weaver, both of the United Transport Service Employes, spoke in supp of the resolution. Yancey said, "Discrimination today threatens the peace of the world. One of the problems is how can America champion democracy when America itself is not democratic. Two-thirds of the world is of dark peoples and have been unfairly dealt with for generations. "The Union of South Africa seeks to appropriate for itself more of Africa for furtner exploitation. Too long have we winked at the situation. Too long have we tried to assuage our conscience. Now the time has come for us to face the issue."

DESCRIBES CIO WORK

Weaver described the work of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination which has been active in fighting against lynch terror in the South.

Thomas Richardson, vice president of the United Public Workers, and Lyndon Henry, executive board member of the International Fur and Leathers Workers Union, were both standing on the floor waiting to be recognized but were ignored by Murray.

Henry, in an interview later said, "The Negro question is an important part in the life of the CIO. There was not enough discussion on civil rights and the problems of Negroes in the South. The greatest fight of the CIO is still to be made in the South. How they act towards Negroes in the union is the test of how democratic the union is."

The Courier

In keeping with the tone of this resolution and one on the Jewish people was the speech of Rabbi Stephen S. Wise which brought the delegates to their feet at its finish. Rabbi Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, urged labor to "battle against every form of racial and religious prejudice."

Reflecting the force of demands for democratic statements was Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach's digression from his printed speech on Thursday.

"I found," he said, "we had in the City of Washington, our National Capital, a situation in which discrimination was made on the basis of race and color through the medium of segregation in the United States Employment Service offices. That discrimination had been carried on for many years. Many others have attempted to change it."

Pittsburgh, Pa

"I was told that it could not be changed. I was told that the dire results that would be heaped upon me were such that I would soon have to withdraw from the position which I felt should be taken.

BASIS OF WAR

"But it seemed like such a simple problem. We had just gone through a great war. We had sent millions of our young men and women to all parts of the world and one of the fundamental bases upon which we waged that war was that we wanted to eliminate from the world the power of these governments which were based upon discrimination on the basis of race, religion or creed.

"I said there could be no such answer to such a simple question as this. There were some administrative problems involved which took more time than we anticipated, but we went on ahead and made the change and abolished the discriminaton and did away with the segregation. I have not been hurt by anybody about it."

BACKS DIXIE DRIVE

Receiving major attention was the resolution on the drive to organize the unorganized in the South. The drive which began last June is waging a tough battle mainly in the textile and garment industries. But it was a young Negro woman, president of a United Steel Workers local, whose spontaneous speech dramatized the struggles of the rank and file during the drive.

The 500 women in her local have been on strike against the Scripto Pencil Factory in Atlanta, Ga., for six weeks and have maintained a 24-hour picket line. Gladys Dickason, assistant director of the drive, said in an interview that in mixed plants the employer often uses the race issue when attempts are made to organize.

Sat. 11-30-46

The unorganized shops have a wage differential and pay the white workers more. There is an employer in Montgomery, Ala., who owns about twenty factories. When NRA was established he closed the plant rather than pay the minimum wage. He said he had Negro workers and couldn't afford to pay it, intimating that their production was inferior. Today the plant is still operating with all-Negro help and is among the highest in production."

Miss Dickason expressed doubts that plants that do not employ Negroes will ever employ them. "Very few Negroes apply for jobs in the garment industry because of being traditionally barred. Job oppotunities expanded greatly during the war."

In contrast to Miss Dickason's static picture was that given by Joseph Stack of the NMU on the convention floor. He told how equal work rights were demanded for the minority members of the 90,000 seamen of the union wherever they are.

Also sensible to the need of breaking down the segregated work pattern of the South was Donald Henderson of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union. "FTA organizes the lowest paid industry and we have the highest proportion of racial minorities of any organization in CIO," he said.

FRENCH LEADER PRESENT

Interest in the World Federation of Trade Unions resolution was heightened by the presence of Leon Jouhaux, general secretary of the French Confederation of Labor and a vice president of the WFTU.

The resolution pledged support in the campaign to obtain representation of the WFTU in the United Nations and stated:

'We know that an enduring peace demands that the people everywhere, in the economically backward or colonial countries, be protected in their rights of self-determination and self-government—free from interference or coercion from any source—benevolent or despotic."

CITES CANAL ZONE

Resolutions were also passed calling for the elimination of discriminatory practices in the Canal Zone and the establishment there of a decent minimum wage, for the federalization of USES, for a higher minimum wage of 65 cents an hour, for the reinforced and strengthened over-all housing program, for increased veterans' benefits, and for continued political action.

In the elections that closed the convention, Philip Murray was again elected president and Willard Townsend and Ferdinand Smith were among those elected to the executive board.

How CIO Packers Licked Jimcrow

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

In 1919 the Bosses Pitted White Against Negro, But Today . . .

By CLAUDIA JONES

The full story of the solid Negro-white unity demonstrated in the recent strike of the CIO United Packing-House Workers is yet to be told.

Herb March, dynamic leader and Regional vice-president of the Chicago Packinghouse Workers CIO Union spotlighted several outstanding ones.

From its very inception, the Packinghouse Workers built their union on Negro-white unity, March said. The degree of Negro-white unity among the members of the union is practically unmatched by any other basic industrial union, he added.

Whence does this tradition of unity spring? Mew. 2-28-46

Speaking to Herb March, I learned that the answer lies in the history of the union, in its struggles for the rights of its Negro members.

40-50 PERCENT NEGROES

"Take Chicago," said the union leader. "At the inception of union organization, approximately 20-30 percent of the union members were Negroes. This, in itself was a factor in stimulating the need for understanding the problems of the Negro workers. In turn, it became the basis for the fundamental thinking of the organization as a whole One-third of the entire union is composed of Negro members. Today, in Chicago approximately 40-50 percent of the Packing House Workers are Negro workers."

I asked March what the sentiment of the workers on the eve of the strike was. He frankly told me that despite this tradition of unity, the union never forgot that the white members were subject to pressure of the white-supremacy ideas of the employers.

"In fact," he stated, "the war had brought an influx of white and Negro workers to Packingtown from below the Mason-Dixon line. Many of the white workers brought all the prejudice and jimcrow tradition that is not yet an outlaw there. The Negro workers wanted proof of the union's sincerity on their needs. Whereas our union, founded on unity, had never had the need for a special anti-discrimination committee, during the war, it was found necessary to establish such an anti-discrimination committee."

"Our anti-discrimination committee was set up—and at that," said March, "in a union where approximately one half of the local union presidents are Negro and two-thirds of their executive officers are Negro."

March told me further that even with this gain, the employers prejudiced tactics did not cease. To the white workers they raised the cry of 'Negro domination." To Negro workers they raised the cry that 'whites were trying to oust them from leadership posts and that this was the real issue involved in the strikes.".

REMEMBERED 1919

Such was the situation on the eve of the strike. It was not accidental therefore that such alien propaganda caused concern among whites. "Would the Negroes be solid

MARCH

for the strike?" "Would they stick?" "Would they fall for the employers' tactics that "now was the time to take over" the union? The white workers remembered in past strikes the use that the employers made of Negro workers as scabs, and the justification Negro workers felt since at that time the AFL union carried on no struggle.

The Negro workers likewise remembered the race riots of 1919 when many packing house workers, fresh from the South, were utilized in anti-Negro riots against them.

But the CIO union and its members also remembered the struggles of the past, their great lessons learned in the anti-fascist war, and they viewed this wage struggle as one that united the workers, Negro and white. Mew. 2-28-46

NEGOES FIRM

All this is history now. The Negro workers were solid—and were, in the words of Herb March "the best fighters." The skepticism of some white workers who said "You know how it is, the Negro people have bad living conditions, they live hand to mouth and have no reserve" were overcome when the unprecedented unity in the soup kitchen, on picket duty, etc., was demonstrated by Negro strikers everywhere. Important too, was the solidarity of the Negro community to the strikers as well as the white communities around the yards.

The recent rally at DuSable High School was perhaps a high point in the unity. Negro and white packinghouse workers flocked to the Negro community. It was amazing to many that an outstanding collection was contributed by white and Negro strikers, who had not yet gotten their full pay check.

Of its significance, March says:

"The result of the meeting was to raise the question of unity to a higher level. For many of the white workers who came to the South Side, in support of the struggles of the Negro workers, especially the refusal of a big hotel to grant the Negro Memorial foundation space for its Negro History rally, this was a new experience. And they were very much impressed.

"The fight against discrimination against Negroes is being recognized more and more by our white members like the fight in the trenches against fascism. White unionists must learn this lesson well. The American Bourbon - Monopolists fought against the establishment of mixed troops in the U. S. Army because they fear its impact on the unity of Negro and white on the labor front."

CIO Rips Police Negro Baiting

Chicago Defender

Ask U.S. Act In Columbia Riot Case

Chicago Sec.

WASHINGTON — The recent nation-wide wave of police brutality against labor and Negroes was condemned this week in a hard-hitting resolution passed by the Congress of Industrial Organizations' executive board.

The police of Columbia, Tenn., Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Chicago were charged with "vicious anti-labor practices" and "terroristic acts against minority groups such as Negroes."

At the same time, the executive board called for the abolition of the poll tax and pledged CIO support to Abolish the Poll Tax Week, March 24-31.

Sat 3-23-46

Demand Action

The resolution against police brutality, which urged the U. S. Attorney General to prosecute officials responsible, stated:

"During the past few weeks there have been several very dangerous and significant indications of a growing trend toward use of police brutality. As has always been the case in the past when officers of the law abused their authority to deprive American citizens of important rights, these terroristic acts have been directed against labor and against minority groups such as Negroes.

"Particularly disturbing have been the reports received from Columbia, Tenn. It appears quite clear that the Negro community of that city was forced by threats of an impending lynch mob to take action within their own residences and businesses for self-protection. Nevertheless, the State Police authorities embarked upon a course of conduct resulting in the destruction and devastation of the physical property of the Negro community and followed these activities with mass arrests in complete violation of basic principles of civil rights of Americans. This activity reached its high point in the killing of two of the arrested Negroes in the jail house by the police officers themselves.

Hit Lynchings

"During the very same period the police in Philadelphia were attacking strikers engaged in a peaceful parade on the public streets, were using their clubs freely and, not satisfied merely with breaking up the parade, were following individual paraders on to private property and into private homes to club and beat them without provocation.

"Similar vicious anti-labor practices have been the vogue on the part of police officials in the cities of Chicago and Los Angeles.

"These developments follow on the heels of other instances of police killings and lynchings of Negro people, including returning veterans, in various parts of the South and of brutal police actions against pickets in other parts of the country. These are not simply isolate instances without relation to each other. Each unpunished act of police brutality is an encouragement to the same pattern of conduct elsewhere. It is important that all forces of government and the people be brought to bear in defense of democratic and constitutional rights to prevent any spread of a program of terror and lynch spirit.

Hit Poll Tax Sabotage

"It is extremely important, therefore, that the attorney general of the United States rise to the very special responsibility imposed on him by these developments and undertake vigorous prosecution of public officials who engage in violations of the Federal Civil Rights Act." Sat 3-23-46

The resolution on the poll tax, which pointed out how vital bills on housing, price control and minimum wages have been sabotaged repeatedly in Congress, declared:

"This betrayal of the people by their elected representatives has been made possible by the operation of the poll tax system in seven states, whereby congressmen representing but a small minority of their constituents are able to join hands with representatives of the minority party and thwart the wishes of the majority. This unholy alliance has only recently been formalized by the announcement that a steering committee has been established to give it direction and leadership, but it has operated for the past year to delay and defeat legislation of vital concern to the whole American people.

"We call upon the majority of Congress to overthrow this rule of the minority by prompt enactment in the Senate of H.R. 7, the bill to abolish the poll tax as a requirement for voting in federal elections. The House of Representatives has passed this bill in three successive Congresses, but the Senate of the United States has allowed itself to be intimidated by filibusters and threats of filibusters. The stranglehold of minority rule must be broken if the Congress of the United States is to fulfill its duty to the people."

"That Goes For . . ."

Constitution

The South is indebted to Van A. Bittner, Director of the CIO's Southern organization plan for this statement:

"No crowd, whether Communist, Socialists or anybody else, is going to mix up this organizing drive. That goes for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and any other organization living off the CIO . . ." Atlanta, Ga.

For more than a year now the report has been current that the organization of exhibitionist futility, calling itself the "Southern Conference for Human Welfare," was subsidized by the CIO. Mr. Van Bittner now confirms it.

The Constitution has no hostility for the Southern Conference. It is so futile and its record is one of such futility as to require no opinion about it save to regard it as an unneccessary sort of vermiform appendix among welfare organizations, serving no known purpose. About all it ever did was to confuse opinion, as many confused it with the worthwhile Southern Regional Council. Sun 4-21-46

It began as a Communist-dominated control was wrested from them. Since apparently, sold the CIO a bill of goods organization and its first meeting at Bir- that time, other than issuing a pamphlet with an argument it would assist in the mingham was in their control. There then or so, meeting and chewing over well- PAC movement. Apparently Mr. Bittner was a revolt of the non-Communists and chewed bones and resolutions about them, recognizes it for the albatross it is about it has been dying on the vine. This despite the neck of the CIO the high hopes for it after its escape from and wants none of Communist control. It was moribund when it. This we can the CIO gave it a blood plasma injection quite understand. in the form of a subsidy. Someone had,

Red-Baiting Won't Organize Dixie

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By GEORGE MORRIS

Union-busters and professional anti-CIO snipers in the press were not slow in picking up Van A. Bittner's redbaiting attack upon Harlem's "Help Organize the South" rally and parade. Like trained seals they jumped at the opportunity to cite the incident as proof that an internal war is brewing in the CIO. What could be sweeter for those who don't like the CIO, its PAC or its plans to invade Rankin's South? Sat 4-20-46

The occasion for Bittner's outburst and its unfortunate effect on the CIO's southern project was the movement, initiated by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell's **People's Voice**, to stage a Harlem parade and Rally on May 5 to give support and draw popular attention to the CIO's latest progressive move.

The sponsors for this movement are probably as good a cross-section of Harlem leaders as the CIO would desire for support, and many of New York's prominent CIO leaders. Even three AFL Negro leaders are on the list.

The headline over their call reads.

"Help organize the South—forge a new weapon for freedom. Now is the time to halt the rising tide of Dixie fascism".

VOICE OF NEGRO PEOPLE

They further announced that the proceeds from their rally will be put in the hands of a committee of the sponsors to advance further organization of workers in the South.

This is primarily a voice from the Negro people, from people who know conditions in the South and who know well what it means to invade Dixie. They have been waiting for the historic move southward for a long, long time.

Lo and behold, comes a story out of Washington in which Bittner announced that Organizational Director Allan S. Haywood declined to address the Harlem rally and that "no crowd, whether Communists, Socialists or anybody else, is going to mix us in this drive."

And, indicating what red-baiting leads to, Bittner added, "That goes for the Southern Conference of Human Welfare."

It is hard to understand how anybody could be planning to do anything progressive in the South and start doing it with an attack upon the Southern Conference for Human Welfare — an organization with such unrivaled prestige and wide support among both Negro and white people of the South.

It is equally hard to see what good Bittner did to the campaign he is directing, with an attack upon the **People's Voice**, in which the CIO has one of its staunchest supporters among the Negro people.

MEAT FOR REACTION

But it isn't hard to see why the New York **Sun** runs a long piece, headlined on its front page, demanding that Bittner do much more red-baiting before anyone will believe him that the CIO isn't "Communist." The same story slanders the CIO among Negro people with the implication that Negro organizers won't be used, saying that there are "150 snow-white organizers already in the South." Sat 4-20-46

Neither is it hard to understand why Victor Riesel, New York **Post** columnist and David Dubinsky's mouthpiece, greets Bittner's statements with enthusiasm. Most of his daily columns are devoted to urging an internal "left-right" war in the CIO.

Who gains from this red-baiting and hot-headed labeling of people who want to help the CIO? Only those in or out of the CIO who want to disrupt its ranks and its Dixie drive. The Rankin-minded reactionaries in the South will take that as notice that the CIO is in a retreating mood, and they will make the most of it.

NO ONE'S IMMUNE

And there need be no doubt that before the Southern drive is over, even Mr. Bittner will be painted "red" in Dixie's press, just as Sidney Hillman and others were.

It seems a shame that such confusion should enter so important a drive. No one in Harlem or anywhere else wanted to "mix in" or "interfere" with the CIO's drive. The people who sponsor the Harlem rally must have remembered the historic drives of the CIO in steel, packing, at Ford's and other fields, and how the CIO welcomed support from all directions and all groups. And only a few weeks ago the help for CIO strikes was welcomed. This is the policy that has won for the CIO in the past. The principle still holds.

CIO Joins Liberals Opposing Bill to Deny Vote in Alabama

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP) — The Congress of Industrial Organizations has gone of record as opposing the adoption of the Boswell amendment, which requires that a voter understand the Constitution, as well as able to read and write it in English. 1-12-46

Termed the "white supremacy vote bill," the measure has been openly endorsed by Gossner T. McCorvey, chairman of the State Democratic Executive committee, who insists that there are not enough colored voters to make any difference in the election results.

Adequate Controls Set

Urging obedience to the U. S. Supreme Court ruling and opposing separation of the party primary from State law, he says further that the restriction imposed under the amendment will adequately control and limit the colored vote. 1-12-46

Meanwhile, progressive leaders charge that although the bill removes the poll tax as a requirement for voting, it still affords an instrument for preventing only colored persons from registering.

Local 65—Fighter Against Bias

Daily Worker New York

By DOROTHY LOEB

Many a resolution against discrimination gathers dust in the files while discrimination continues to flourish. That's why it's impressive to get a documented record of achievement by Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Local 65, a lively CIO union whose deeds correspond to its words. Thur. 3-21-46

In an attractive little brochure, "Local 65 Fights Discrimination," the union gives the facts of a selected dozen or more cases in which policy came up against practice and policy was enforced.

You read about Reginald Thorpe, a Negro, and Manny Molofky, a Jewish boy, sent from the union hiring hall for jobs. They were told "nothing doing" but investigation showed discrimination presiding at the personnel office. The union got busy and the two boys were hired.

You read of the leather shop that kept Negroes only on a sewing job that was hazardous. The case was marked finished when the hazard was eliminated and people of all races were distributed on the different operations.

A wholesale jewelry shop, hiring through the union, added just one request: "Don't send any more Negroes?" Why? The boss said that Negroes already on the payroll were stealing merchandise. A checkup proved the charge false, helped catch the real thieves, and maintained the union's unchangeable rotary hiring system.

No names, dates or places are given in the Local 65 handbook. But the cases real and taken from union files. Identifications were kept from publication because the discriminatory policies listed had been corrected. Thur. 3-21-46

Local 65 members can take pride in the publication because it shows what their union has done and is doing. But this publication is of far wider interest than that because it demonstrates in practice how the fight against discrimination must be waged.

Negro Vote Throws Atlanta Congress Race To CIO Choice

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

ATLANTA, Ga.—The vote of the predominantly Negro Third Ward-B this week named Mrs. Helen Douglas Mankin winner in Georgia's Fifth District special election for a successor to retired Congressman Robert Ramspect.

Mrs. Mankin, also backed by the Atlanta CIO won a bitterly contested race against 16 other candidates, all male. Sat 2-23-46

A breakdown of the voting showed that the election was swung by the votes of Atlanta Negroes who supported her. Mrs. Mankin received 11,099 votes while her closest competitor, Thomas Camp, secretary to Ramspeck, received 10,329.

Negroes Precinct Managers

Before the late returns of Third Ward-B were in, Camp was in the lead with well over 109 votes. This precinct gave Mrs. Mankin 956 votes and Camp 7.

Negroes served as precinct managers and clerks in Atlanta for the first time in a congressional election. All the candidates were Democrats. Robert Ramspeck, who Mrs. Mankin will replace, resigned to become a top executive in the aviation industry.

The congresswoman, former representative in the state legislature, will represent the fifth Georgia district in Congress which includes Fulton, Rockland and DeKalb counties. Atlanta is the largest city in the district.

CIO Choice Is Victor In Alabama

Richmond Times Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Thur. 5-9-46

PAC Rebuffed By Ohio Voters

WASHINGTON, May 8—(UP)—Returns tonight from four primary elections held yesterday showed that the CIO Political Action Committee, which is out to purge anti-New Dealers, got a sharp rebuff in Ohio but scored one victory and possibly another in the Deep South.

Elections were held in Ohio, Indiana, Alabama and Florida.

In Ohio, Senator James W. Huffman (D.) swamped three Democratic senatorial opponents, among them Marvin Harrison, the CIO-Progressive candidate, who ran a poor third. Huffman thus won the right to oppose former Governor John W. Bricker, 1944 GOP vice-pdesidential candidate who was unopposed for the Republican senatorial nomination.

In Alabama's Fifth Congressional District, CIO-PAC-endorsed Representative Albert Rains apparently won renomination over former Representative Joe Starnes, one-time vice-chairman of the Dies House Un-American Activities Committee. In addition, another CIO-PAC candidate, J. E. Folsom, was in a neck-and-neck race with Lieutenant-Governor Hand Ellis for the governorship. The vote was so close a run-off primary June 4 may be necessary. Thur. 5-9-46

Gonas in Lead

Another CIO-PAC congressional race—in the Third Indiana District—was undecided. State Senator John S. Gonas, South Bend, supported by the CIO, held a slight lead over E. Spencer Walton for the Democratic nomination.

The CIO-PAC hopes to amass more than $5,000,000 to finance its purge campaign. It has prepared black lists, naming Congressmen who voted for the Case antistrike bill and other legislation opposed by the CIO.

Yesterday's elections provided its first major testing ground and the results were scanned closely by Senators and Representatives who are seeking re-election. The next big primary on May 21 in Pennsylvania, where New Deal Senator Joseph F. Guffey wants renomination. Other State-wide primaries will be held in Ore on May 17 and in North Carol on May 25.

Few Surpises

Aside from the CIO-PAC c tests, yesterday's results w about as expected.

In Indiana nine congressional cumbents, eight of them Repub cans, were renominated. Anoth Representative Charles M. LaF lette (R.) is campaigning for ele tion to the Senate against Senat Raymond Willis (R.). The nom nation will be made at the GOP State convention next month.

Ohio congressional incumbents fared equally well. Chief interest there centered on the Huffman-Harrison race. Had the CIO candidate won nomination, it would have set the stage for a November conflict on whether labor was strong enough to smash Bricker's presidential hopes.

Popularity Shown

Bricker's popularity was demonstrated when he received more than 315,000 votes—the highest single total of any candidate—even though he had no opposition.

The only upset in Florida was the unseating of Representative Joe Cannon, who was defeated by George Smathers, of Miami. Smathers, a 32-year-old former marine officer, is regarded as pro-administration. Thur. 5-9-46

Spessard L. Holland, of Bartow, won the United States senatorial nomination hands down. He overwhelmingly defeated former Representative Lex Green, of Starke, and will succeed the ailing Senator Charles O. Andrews, who did not seek re-election.

2 IL 1946

A Fresh South Wind

The Worker New York, N.Y.

LOW WAGES, poor working conditions and the hateful divisive Jimcrow policy behind both have long been notorious below the Mason and Dixon line.

These evils are main factors in a situation which once caused Franklin D. Roosevelt to point to the South as the country's No. 1 economic problem.

Now a new wind is blowing southward, promising relief to the underpaid southern workers and to the nation as a whole whose economy is dragged down by this medieval way of life. *Mon 4-29-46*

The new wind is the CIO organizing drive which, by bringing organization to the southern workers, based on a long-time established policy of no discrimination, promises not only to improve the conditions of the workers, but to strengthen organized labor as a whole, CIO and AFL.

A natural and valued by-product of this organizing drive will inevitably be the opening up of democratic rights in areas where they have been suppressed beyond all endurance.

Once freed from the open shop, united in democratic unions, moving toward improvement of their living standards, the people of the South, Negro and white, can be expected to make some important corrections in the congressional directory. Rep. John Rankin, Sen. Theodore Bilbo and men like them, who hold office only because a feudal rule denies expression to the popular will, may have to retire to their plantations.

More power to the CIO drive.

CIO TO SEEK END OF SOUTH'S POLL TAX

New York Times

Murray Says 'Operation Dixie' Aims at the 'Emancipation' of a Million Workers

Thurs 4-11-46

By WALTER W. RUCH

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DETROIT, April 10—Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, asserted today that the political and economic emancipation" of one million workers in the Deep South and the consequent eradication of the poll tax and racial discrimination were the goals of the pending organizational drive which has become known in trade union circles as "Operation Dixie."

Twice, in a press conference and in an address, Mr. Murray took occasion to emphasize that the "flying wedge" of organizers which the CIO will unleash next month in what has also been dubbed as the "Second War Between the States" would constitute an all-out effort to equalize the net earnings of a laborer without respect to the nearest meridian.

There was no mistaking the serious intent of the CIO as reflected in the measured words of Mr. Murray regarding its invasion of the South.

He insisted that the campaign would be a "straight, clean cut, pure, unadulterated campaign to organize that territory." He said that he was not indulging in any wishful thinking that such a campaign would meet stiff opposition. He added:

"We'll take care of that when it happens."

The southern drive will start in May, with some 200 organizers, backed by a $1,000,000 war chest donated by affiliates of the CIO, moving into the deep States under the over-all command of Van A. Bittner, assistant to CIO's president.

These details, already known, were augmented today by Mr. Murray when he outlined some of the objectives in what seems almost certain to become one of the most bitterly contested labor drives in the history of the country.

The following colloquy was heard between a reporter and Mr. Murray at the press conference this morning:

Q. Would you care to comment upon the objectives and the pattern of the organizational drive to be carried on in the South by the CIO? *Thurs 4-11-46*

Organizing Begins in May

A. The CIO will begin its work of organizing the South early in May. It will be a straight, clean cut, pure, unadulterated campaign, to organize that territory, to establish collective bargaining and to elevate the standard of living.

Q. Won't there be some by-products, such as the elimination of the poll tax and 'Jim Crowism'?

A. The move will, of course, have some by-products, but I should not care now to comment upon them for the record. You may be sure that as labor's lot is improved, labor will drive out all forms of discrimination in industry and provide equalized job opportunities for all.

Q. Would you care to state how the attack will be organized; that is, which industry you will drive at first?

A. Oh, I don't know. There is, of course, the textile industry, which has about 265,000 unorganized workers. And there is the lumber industry with about 315,000 unorganized workers. And you have the chemical industry, including Texas, which has about 150,000 unorganized workers. Then you have the white collar and agricultural workers, the number of whom I wouldn't attempt to estimate.

Other union sources indicated that the total of eligibles in the five groups enumerated by Mr. Murray would exceed one million.

He Defies Rankin and Bilbo

During his address at the dedication of the union hall, Mr. Murray told the steelworkers that "the men and women of the South must be free and we must deliver to them their political and economic emancipation."

By name, he defied Representative John Rankin and Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi, both of whom have been identified with the anti-labor bloc in the Congress, to dare raise a hand in protest against a "workingman in this year of our lord 1946 deciding for himself which union he should join —even in the State of Mississippi."

The campaign, Mr. Murray said, was "almost a holy crusade."

The CIO, he said, would carry political and economic salvation to the South, just as church workers spread the word of spiritual salvation. He continued:

"You won't get this thing done by going over there to Washington and barking up trees. Bill Green of the AFL isn't going to do it. And 'Bushy Brows' (John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, AFL) isn't going to do it. And the reactionaries in Congress aren't going to do it.

"So, we've just got to roll up our sleeves, and face the sun, and go down there and do it by ourselves."

Mr. Murray told the steel workers that the "iniquities of the poll tax" would be removed by spreading the labor movement through the South. *Thurs 4-11-46*

Mr. Thomas, David J. McDonald, secretary-treasurer of the USW, and Thomas Shane, director of Region 29 of the USW, also made short addresses at the meeting in the new building, which has broad lines generally resembling Independence Hall in Philadelphia. It is located in River Rouge.

Mr. Murray declined in his press conference to speculate on the subjects to be considered at the meeting of the CIO-PAC meeting in Washington next week. He made it clear however, that whatever the objectives might be, the formation of a third party was not among them.

"It is my own individual opinion that there will be no third party movement sponsored by the CIO. We'll content ourselves by working within the framework of the two-party system. We'll elect the best candidates and we'll support the cause of liberalism."

Mr. Murray declared that during his meeting with Mr. Reuther, only matters affecting the CIO as a whole and nothing concerned with internal affairs of the UAW were discussed.

Labor Leader Makes History

Afro American Baltimore, Md

CHICAGO — Hilliard Ellis, 30-year-old labor leader, became the first colored man in the history of the United Automobile Workers Union here, to head one of its locals recently.

Born in Columbia, S.C., Ellis came here after his first year in grammar school. A graduate of Oak Park High School, Oak Park, Ill., during his junior year, he was class president, and was active in athletics, excelling in boxing. *4-27-46*

His election marked the climax to a career that began nine years ago while he was working at the National Malleable Steel Casting Co. at Melrose Park.

At this time, he was one of the workers who helped organize the plant into an independent union. He also served on the bargaining committee.

Ellis's UAW local already has 5,600 members, and he states that his plans are to recruit 10,000 unorganized workers. He also intimated his first concern with the welfare of his workers.

CIO Rejects Aid; Hits Local Group

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—The CIO made it very clear last week that it wants no asistance in its southern organizing campaign. Van A. Bittner, director of the campaign, pointedly rejected offers of a group headed by Rep. A. Clayton Powell Jr. called "Help Organize the South."

The HOS had announced it would hold a parade and rally in Harlem, and invited Allan S. Haywood, CIO organizing director, to speak. Haywood told reporters he declined the invitation. *Sat 4-27-46*

Bittner, who has been a union organizer in the south for 21 years, said at a news conference:

Purpose Of Drive

"No crowd, whether communist, socialist, or anybody else, is going to mix up in this organizing drive. That goes for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and any other organization living off the CIO. We don't want people to get us mixed up with all these other organizations."

The CIO organizing drive, begun early in April, plans to be nationwide with emphasis on the south. Bittner said a $1,000,000 fund has been pledged by CIO unions, and that almost 150 organizers already are at work. Declaring that he would move into Atlanta this week to direct the campaign, he said:

"This drive has one purpose and one purpose only—getting unorganized workers into unions affiliated with the CIO."

Powell, reached in New York, described Bittner's position as "stupid," and said he did not believe Bittner was "speaking for the CIO."

Endorsement Stands

Following the blast from Bittner, the Amsterdam News contacted Saul Mills, secretary-treasurer, Greater New York CIO Council which represents 300 locals and about 600,000 members. Earlier this month Mills endorsed the local "Organize the South" rally, and urged all CIO locals to do likewise.

Mills stated that the Council had not seen the complete statement; had set up a group to study it, and that the Council's endorsement still stood. *Sat 4-27-46*

Meanwhile, Doxey A. Wilkerson, one of the sponsors of the rally, said that "at no time in any of our announcements did we say that the Rally was a part of the CIO program.

1st Negro Heads UAW Local

Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

Breaks Precedent In Winning Post

Sat 4-20-46

Elected by a membership which is two thirds white, Hilliard Ellis, 30-year-old labor leader, this week became the first Negro in union history to head a branch of the powerful United Automobile Workers, when he was named president of Chicago's UAW Local 453.

More than 1,500 white and Negro workers of Local 453 witnessed Ellis' election came almost a month after young Walther Reuther assumed presidency of the UAW, and is taken as an indication that Reuther maintains no anti-Negro policy as his foes in the CIO have charged. With at least 75,000 colored members, the union is at present the nation's largest.

More than 1,500 white and Negro workers of Local 453 witnessed Ellis' historic installation. The local's entire membership already exceeds 5,600, but one of the new president's major tasks will be the organization of 10,000 unorganized workers.

Ellis first attained a national reputation in labor politics when he spearheaded a cleanup campaign against corrupt union leadership and was elected financial secretary of his unit in 1942. He was subsequently named general vice-president of Local 453 at which post he served until his election to the presidency. *Sat 4-20-46*

Declared Ellis when asked about his future policy: "I am concerned first about the welfare of workers, regardless of race, creed or color. Nothing is more important right now than the unity of Negro and white workers."

Map Union Plans to Hold Prices

John Thornton, right, first colored person appointed as chairman of a CIO Standing Committee confers with Leo Goodman, secretary, on plans to carry CIO's fight for effective price control into every town in the U.S. Thornton and Goodman will lead the fight as officers of CIO's Cost of Living Committee, which chose Thornton as acting chairman in a recent re-organization. Mr. Thornton represents the Steel Workers of America on price control matters in Washington. Mr. Goodman is Washington representative of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America.

JAY G. HAYDEN

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Dixie Solons Fear CIO Invasion

Ned 4-17-46

WASHINGTON—One by-product of the rising feud between the Democratic conservative wing in Congress and National Chairman Robert E. Hannegan is disclosure that quite a few Southern Representatives are real honest-to-goodness scared of the CIO's threatened $6,000,000 vote-chasing invasion of their section.

For example, colleagues of Hatton Sumners and Fritz G. Lanham, the two Texas veterans who recently declined to seek renomination, say that these retirements were at least strongly influenced by the growing number and aggressiveness of organized workers. Sumners hails from Dallas and Lanham from Fort Worth, both of which cities have grown greatly in industry and population during the war period.

Sumners and Lanham, according to their close associates, could in all probability have achieved re-election but, growing old and tired, they had no heart for the hard battles that they saw ahead.

Quits Without Fight The same consideration undoubtedly persuaded Martin Dies, erstwhile Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities to quit without a fight two years ago. Dies' former district contains the industrial city of Beaumont and extensive oil, gas and lumber developments, employes of which had been joining unions at a great rate either voluntarily or by war contract compulsion.

When Mr. Dies heard that the CIO was paying poll taxes of these unionized workers in order to assure their voting in the Democratic primary, he decided not to run.

It is significant that one of the first votes cast by Rep. J. M. Combs, Mr. Dies' successor, was against the continuance of the Un-American Activities Committee. Combs generally has stuck to the New Deal line, including a recent vote against the Case strike control bill, but he did climb on the Southern bandwagon, together with all other members of the Texas delegation, in opposition to the anti-poll tax bill.

Adding to the threat of organized labor this year is the prospect of a substantial increase in the Negro voting. The decision of the Supreme Court, outlawing the restriction of the Democratic primary in Texas to white folks, will operate for the first time in the Congressional and State primary scheduled for next July 27.

One of the main endeavors of the CIO campaign in the South, as announced, will be to see that Negroes pay their poll taxes and participate in the Democratic primary, and in the light of this prospect it is scarcely surprising that old-timers such as Sumners and Lanham, dating from the days when "white supremacy" was the main pillar of the Southern one-party system, are viewing the political future with alarm.

Wed 4-17-46

Negro Vote Decisive Texas is not the only state in which Negro voting is expected to increase this year. In the recent Congressional by-election in the Atlanta, Ga., district, the victory of Rep. Helen Mankin over 17 other contestants was attributed to the fact that about 1,000 Negroes went to the polls for the first time in their lives to vote for her.

Alabama is another state where Democratic primaries have been officially opened to Negroes in deference to the Supreme Court decision. Only Mississippi, South Carolina and Arkansas still are sticking 100 percent to the lily-white Democratic primary. Primaries in the first two of these states are subject to call by party committees and nomination by convention may be substituted.

One of the reasons why Southern Representatives were so much aroused over publication in a Democratic National Committee magazine of the statement that votes for the Case anti-strike bill were "against the American people" was that they saw this as specially aimed at Democratic primaries in the South.

These primaries, which heretofore have been decisive as to final election, are close to hand. Alabama and Florida vote on May 7; North Carolina, May 25; Mississippi, July 2; Arkansas, July 16; Tennessee, Aug. 1; Virginia, Aug. 6; Louisiana, Sept. 10.

For many of these states political statements now are comparable in importance with those issued in September or early October in Northern and Western states, where the day of decision still is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

An Immense Gamble

Birmingham News Ala.

BY JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON, April 11—In less than a month, the CIO begins its all-out campaign to sign up the unorganized white and Negro workers of the South, and thus seek to break the power of those they regard as the reactionaries in the Democratic party's Southern wing. It is really the thought of this campaign which is making the Southerners in Congress foam with public rage against Postmaster General Robert Hannegan, who has officially blessed the CIO plan. In the long view, moreover, the CIO campaign may well prove the most significant political event of our time. For it will test the stability of the South's political setup. And this setup has been a central fact in American politics for about 70 years.

The CIO aim is 1,250,000 new members in the South in the next 10 months, mainly in the textile, lumber, tuurpentine and steel industries. CIO strategists believe they enjoy a peculiar advantage at present, when they have established an 18½ per cent wage increase as administration policy. The effect of the campaign on the low wage areas of the Southern economy could be immensely important. It is, nevertheless, more important still that the frankly-avowed CIO aim is franchise for the Negro in the parts of the South where no Negro has previously voted.

Thurs 4-11-46

* * *

IT IS A MISTAKE to assume that extension of the franchise to the Negro is entirely novel in the South. Negro voting had a share, for example, in the CIO effort to defeat Rep. Martin Dies, which is already known to be the model of the present CIO campaign.

Workers will be organized. They will be urged to pay their poll taxes and, where necessary, given financial aid in doing so. And they will be required to register and vote. As far as the Negroes are concerned, the CIO campaign will, of course, be greatly assisted by the Supreme Court decisions outlawing white primaries and spelling out the voting equality guaranteed under the 15th amendment of the constitution.

Those Supreme Court decisions may be expected to bear fruit long before the CIO campaign, which is starting too late to influence many primaries this year. In Texas, Alabama and Florida, the ballot boxes have already been officially opened to the Negroes. In Georgia, Negro votes are reported to have helped Rep. Helen Mankin in her recent Atlanta fight against 17 other contestants. Negroes have voted in Kentucky, Virginia, Oklahoma, North Carolina and Tennessee. In fact, white primaries and white elections will only be maintained this year in Arkansas, Mississippi and South Carolina.

In some of these states Negroes voted before in special areas. In all of them, during the immediate future, Negro voting will undoubtedly be much rarer, more local and more sporadic than white voting. But it is important that eight states which formerly had white primaries now have primaries in which some Negroes will vote.

Thurs 4-11-46

ALL THIS drives Southern Democrats of the type of Rep. John Rankin, of Mississippi, into a sort of incoherent frenzy.

"It's a Communist plot," he said when asked about the CIO organizing campaign. "They'll be down there buying elections. They'll be trying to give the Negro a vote. They're takin' over the country; we got to stop them if we want this country."

There was more than a trace of evident fear in Rankin's remarks, which were delivered in a tone halfway between a yelp and a bellow. Every sensible Southerner joins every Northerner who does not belong to the lunatic "right" in regarding Rep. Rankin as one of the least appetizing figures in American politics. But, although he speaks with hysteria, what he says has some meaning.

News Birmingham Ala

It has meaning for a very simple reason. If the CIO campaign is successful, the days of the Rankins are numbered in most parts of the South. But if it fails, it will confirm the power of the Rankins and their kidney in many areas, and it will make them a great deal worse. In short, the CIO runs the risk of inflaming the very condition it desires to cure. It is an immense gamble.—©.

LABOR VIEWS

Memphis Tenn.

By GEORGE F. McCRAY for ANP

The CIO Drive

during the drives to organize stee and meat packing. While he is thus in flight, AFL President William Green, and John L. Lewis, William Hutcheson and company are laying plans to block the CIO in the South on both the political and labor fronts. George L. Googe, AFL southern regional director, will direct a well financed and well staffed drive to add a million Southern workers within a year to the 1,800,000 already claimed in the South.

WITHSTOOD DRIVE

Even without AFL opposition and competition, the CIO would have found its difficulties in the South pretty hard to overcome at best. The South has easily withstood several other CIO drives. The first enthusiasm of Ne-

THE HIGH HOPES and enthusiasm with which Negro leaders and the Negro public greeted the proposed CIO political and union organizing campaigns in the South subsided markedly last week. Van A. Bittner, Vice president of Philip Murray's United Steelworkers of America, and director of the CIO drive to organize the lumber and textile industries of the South, announced the CIO for this southern drive, would not accept the help, financial or otherwise, from the Southern Conference for Human Welfare nor from Communists nor any other group. This statement by Bittner cut the ground from under a money-raising, help-organize-the-South meeting by Congressman Adam C. Powell of New York

Mr. Bittner is obviously and second was the expectation that publicly running away from the unifying influences of the mil Indiana, Pennsylvan type of aid which he willingly ac- lion dollar CIO union drive would Ohio and in the mi cepted from 1936 to 1939 to pull ease racial conflicts over jobs. This Kentucky and W. V the CIO through the rough spots had happened in mill towns of

Negro C. I. O. Member Heads Chicago Union

First Time In History For A Negro To Head Local Union; Southern Workers Ask Question Of CIO Organizers

"Hilliard Ellis, thirty-year old labor leader, became the first Negro in the history of the United Automobile Workers Union to head one of its locals when he was installed here (Chicago) Sunday as president of Local 453 during impressive ceremonies at Amalgamated hall. The membership is two-thirds white."

C. I. O. Race Policies

The News and Courier:

I note an Associated Press article in Saturday's paper to the effect that the CIO does not favor any change in racial relations in this state, but only that the right to work should not be denied on account of color.

Enclosed you will find a page of The Daily Worker, which is the Communists' official newspaper, linked closely with the CIO, which says in regard to a strike in Thomasville, N. C., that the Rev. Ben Moore, chairman of the strike committee, and Horace Small, organizer of the CIO workers, will report at a church meeting on the unity of negro and white strikers who have learned to eat together as well as strike together.

It is encouraging to learn that the CIO has plans for South Carolina different from that they have in North Carolina, if they have.

CHARLTON DURANT.

Manning.

Red Caps Get Rail Benefit

CHICAGO—Spurred by the CIO United Transport Service Employes for the past nine years, railroad retirement benefits for the Nation's station ushers and red caps became a reality last week when Congress passed and President Harry Truman signed the bill liberalizing the Railroad Retirement Act.

The new Railroad Retirement Act and the amendments dealing with red caps credits into the retirement fund becomes the third and final step outlined by the UTSE-CIO in 1937 in its original campaign to make the red cap a working member and integral part of the railroad industry.

CIO Operates JC Unions in Va.

DANVILLE, Va.—The CIO operates separate unions for white and colored workers in local silk mills. This jim crow setup always has existed.

The colored local No. 511 has jim crow headquarters at 226½ Union St. D. Younger, president, said that they have been working here to correct the segregation evil.

Officials Mix at Times

Officials of the separate colored and white CIO unions meet together sometimes, but the members never. White members meet in their hall, and colored members meet on Union St.

This same jim crow union pattern exists in other parts of the South. In Durham, N.C., the pattern for factory workers requires separate meetings.

Colored meet once monthly at Labor Hall, while whites meet on Mangrum St. Once a month there is also a general meeting.

In the Danville cotton-silk mills themselves, jim crow prevails as in the mill unions. Colored union members do the laboring work.

Two years ago when colored girls were put on machines as spinners, white workers struck and stayed out quite a while. The girls were taken off the machines before the white workers would return to work.

Union Fails to Fight JC

There are some colored foremen, but they operate only over colored help. According to colored workers, the white union has done nothing so far as they know toward breaking down racial barriers so that there can be job promotion on the basis of ability rather than color.

Since colored and white workers never meet together, both elect representatives separately to the national and district union conventions.

According to Mr. Younger the two unions not only have separate headquarters, but they meet on different dates. And, also, there are separate rest rooms for white and colored union workers.

Workers Silent On Policy

Asked whether the workers themselves made any outcry against the jim crow in unions, officials said,

"Workers have not made any outcry against this sort of discrimination, because usually they have pressure brought from both sides.

"On the one hand, they have the white boss who usually is able to get the laboring class to do what he wants done.

"If this is not successful, he resorts to the colored boss of the community, who, in this case, is the 'powers that be' of the colored union."

When surprise was registered that segregation was permitted to continue in CIO unions, the answer was that the CIO operated in the cotton-silk mill, and the AF of L in the tobacco factory here, and both unions operated on the same segregation basis.

Labor Leader Protests Monroe Lynch Violence

CHICAGO — (ANP) — A demand for immediate protection for union members and organizers in the south was made Friday by the executive board of the International Union of Mine, Mill and melter workers (CIO) following the threat of a hooded mob at Macon, Ga., to lynch 27-year old Mike Ross, international representative of that union.

Ross, a native southerner who has been active in the organization of Negro and white workers into the CIO, said the mob threatened to kill him if he didn't leave Georgia immediately. The would be-lynchers came to his home in Macon Thursday night, Ross said, and, finding him absent, told his wife that they were going to lynch the organizer if he remained in the area, Mrs. Ross was hospitalized next morning as a result of the shock suffered at the hands of the hooded mob.

Ross has been assisting in the national CIO's southern organizing drive in addition to his assignment for the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union. He said that the threatened lynching was part of the "reign of terror sweeping Georgia." In the past week he had been particularly active in organizing protest against the recent shooting of two Negro couples in nearby Walton County.

The union's executive board, in session in Chicago, wired U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark and President Truman, demanding that the department of justice 'immediately apprehend the instigators of this reign of terror" since "local law enforcement officials are either unwilling or unable to arrest the criminals and guarantee the safety of law-abiding citizens. Guarantees for the personal safety of Ross and all other unionists in Georgia were also asked of Governor Ellis Arnall.

CIO President Philip Murray was immediately notified of the threat on Ross's life and was urged to use 'the full weight of the CIO" to demand protection for Ross and all other union organizers.

NEGRO WORKERS OF STATE WILL BE ORGANIZED

CHARLOTTE, June 19. (AP)—The CIO announced plans today for a campaign to organize 50,000 Negro tobacco workers in the Wilson-Rocky Mount area of North Carolina.

At the same time, George Baldanzi, vice-chairman of the CIO Southern organizing committee, established headquarters here to take active direction of the membership drive in the two Carolinas. He said he would be here indefinitely or "until everything is organized."

The two previously appointed directors—William Smith for North Carolina and Franz Daniel of Spartanburg for South Carolina—will be responsible to Baldanzi, who is executive vice-president of the Textile Workers Union of America. The three will meet tomorrow to further plans for the campaign in South Carolina.

"We are vitally interested in developing constructive labor-management relationships," Baldanzi said. "We want to work out collective bargaining agreements containing the principle of arbitration in order to assure stable relationships."

Smith said the tobacco workers campaign would be directed by R. C. Thomas, formerly of Erwin, N. C., and that the six organizers, including three Negroes, to be assigned to the job would work in close cooperation with the food, tobacco, agricultural and allied workers union of America.

The names of three of the organizers were announced by Smith as W. B. Thompson, William Deberry, Negro, and Elijah Jackson, Negro. The others will be assigned by the tobacco workers union within the next few days.

Jackson will be in charge of the Negro organizers. A member of the shipbuilding workers union, he has worked in some of the CIO's biggest shipyard campaigns in the South, including those at Mobile, Wilmington and Savannah. Deberry, a native of Memphis, organized the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company in Winston-Salem and the Buckeye Cotton Oil company and the Ralston Purina company feed mills in Charlotte.

Union Sets Defender Mark In Race Integration

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Firing a heavy broadside in its offensive for racial unity, the United Farm Equipment and Metal Workers' Union, CIO, climaxed its third Biennial Convention here this week by electing two Negroes to top leadership, while gearing its machinery for a mammoth southern drive.

Ajay Martin, Negro chairman of the grievance committee, local 105, Peoria, Ill., was elected a vice president by unanimous ballot, and Pope Huff, a Chicago Negro, was reelected board member-at-large for the next two years.

The convention further liberalized its constitution to provide for a woman board member-at-large. Negro delegates gave complete support for greater representation of women in executive leadership.

Considering that Negroes comprise only 6,000 of the union's total membership of 90,000, this action acquires special significance in relation to Farm Equipment's all-out drive in certain southern areas, according to Forrest Emerson, public relations director.

Recognize Basic Tasks

In the spirited but unusually serious atmosphere which pervaded the convention floor and corridors of the Pfister Hotel, two basic tasks transcended all others at FE's first peacetime convention:

1. The constant struggle against any attempt "within or without," to destroy the "solidarity" of their "Negro, Jewish, Gentile, Catholic, or Protestant" organized workers.

2. The organization of all farm equipment and metal workers, in the struggle for a greater share of the wealth that they produce and for a greater political representation.

The recognition of these two jobs was reflected in every convention resolution, discussion, and the election of international and district officers.

According to nomination speeches, the two Negro executives won their spurs in the fight for "economic as well as political freedom" on the basis of their ability to maintain unity during the recent strike crises faced by the union.

Ajay Martin—who is also president of the Peoria NAACP—in his acceptance speech, said, "This convention is a resounding keynote to American reaction that unity and democracy shall prevail among the working classes."

One of the high points of the convention came on the second night when delegates engaged in a two-hour denunciation of the "brutal lynch-murders" of American Negroes.

Before the body climaxed the meeting with a strongly worded

cal 107, Chicago; Earl Givson, twine mill local, Chicago; and Joe Pentacost, local 108, Chicago.

Both Negro and white organizers from the South told the Defender that at present they were fighting underground and that prejudices sown by employer interests years past were the chief obstacles to Negro-white unity. Farm Equipment was one of the first CIO unions to hire Negro organizers in the southern drive.

CIO Charges Racial Pattern In N.C. Town

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 9-21-46

NEW YORK—The vast portent of the CIO drive in the South was brought into focus last week as the United Furniture Workers maintained an oasis of racial solidarity, continuing a six-week strike for higher wages and equal opportunities for all workers—Negro and white.

With the Thomasville Chair Company's 400 Negro and 800 whites offering a "threat" to the once-typical southern town of Thomasville, N. C., the issue of a 25 cents wage increase has taken a secondary position to the effects that this precedent of Negro-white unity may have on the whole "ill-housed, ill-fed, ill-clothed" one-third of the nation.

Need Outside Help

At a press conference in the headquarters of the United Furniture Workers (CIO) here, Rev. Moore and Small, who are two of the leading figures in these workers' disputes with the chair firm, made a strong plea for funds and are scheduled to speak at a series of mass meetings and rallies. Receiving at present 45 cents an hour, the workers union is asking an increase of 25 cents, while Doak Finch, representing the employers, will only offer a five cents increase.

"The unity of the strikers is 100 per cent," said Rev. Moore. "Both white and colored are sleeping, eating and marching together on the picket lines. The surprising thing about the strike is that it has received the support of the townspeople.

Fail To Divide Races

"Everybody concerned realizes the issues involved in the strike and attempts to divide the workers have failed because whites realize as well as Negroes that they are all fighting for the same thing and for one group to attempt to settle apart from the other with any of the company's officials would defeat our program. While we are receiving some financial support it isn't enough and we are desperately appealing for funds to enable us to carry on. To lose due to not being financially able to carry on, would be disastrous and a victory for the anti-Negro forces down there."

Negotiations began in April after the CIO had been certified as the bargaining agent for the workers but when the management refused to negotiate any more than a five cents increase, the plant struck on July 25. Since then the 1200 workers have been walking the picket lines.

Largest Unorganized Workers

Morris Pizer, international president of the Furniture Workers Union, asserted that the furniture workers in the south number 75,000, the largest group of unorganized workers below the Mason-Dixon line. Because of this fact the union is vitally interested in winning the fight against the Thomasville firm. More than 10 organizers from the international have been sent there to aid in the CIO's southern organizing drive.

After finishing their speaking tour Small and Rev. Moore will return to Thomasville to wage the fight with renew vigor. Any funds, said Small, that are sent to aid the workers should be forwarded to the United Furniture Workers Union at 261 Fifth ave., New York.

'Slave Labor' Blocked By CIO

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Union Wins Fight With Campbell Soup

WASHINGTON—The planned strike against alleged "Negro slave trading" by the Campbell Soup Company was called off last week by the CIO Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, following a series of negotiations here with company officials.

With a stoppage of canned foods production impending, the Departments of Agriculture and Labor called the Washington parley to settle FTA-CIO charges that Campbell Soup "conspired" with AFL officials to break the CIO by importing Southern Negro labor at "slave rates" to work in Northern plants. CIO official charged that Campbell was paying AFL men $10 a head for every Negro "smuggled." *8-24-46*

Negro Veteran Testifies

FTA-CIO with its Negro membership submitted an affidavit sworn to by Buford Posey, a Memphis Negro veteran, charging James Heap, Campbell's personnel manager and Leon Schachter of the AFL Cannery Workers with meeting with him in a secret Memphis hotel room late in June to "hatch" plans for importing Southern Negroes to Campbell's Salisbury, Md., plant. *Sat.*

Posey swore he was offered $200 per month and a bonus to bring 270 seasonal workers, "signed, sealed and delivered," to the AFL to spearhead an attack on the CIO—first in Salisbury, and later in Chicago and Camden, N. J.

Campbell Denies Charge

In a Defender interview with D. L. Lesh, personnel manager of the Chicago plant, Lesh disclosed a counter-affidavit sworn to by Heap, denying accusations in Posey's affidavit. Lesh praised the company's "democratic policy" toward Negroes adding that there was no segregation in the plant and that Negroes are upgraded in every department, according to ability. *8-24-46*

Henry Gestover, Negro vice **president of Local 194, said that Chicago's 3,500 workers would not be fooled by Campbell's "tricky"** race policy. He pointed out that the "smuggled" Negroes in Maryland were paid only 60 to 65 cents per hour in contrast to the regular CIO rate of $1.04. He said they were charged $8.90 per week for board. According to Gestover, 75 per cent of Local 194 are Negroes.

Charge Campbell 'Insincerity'

Charging Campbell Soup with "insincerity" on the race question, both Gestover and Jack Fox, regional director, said that Negroes were not hired at the Chicago plant until the war emergency and even then not until the FTA-CIO and the FEPC demanded that Negroes be given jobs. Fox said that company officials once hid behind the excuse that white women would not use the same toilets with colored women. *Defender*

Gestover later refuted Lesh's statement on segregation pointing to the mechanical department which he said refuses to hire Negro electricians, plumbers, pipe fitters, welders and general repairmen. *Chicago, Ill.*

Following Camden, N. J., local 60's decision to strike Monday, August 12, Local 194 President John Gallagher in Chicago announced plans for a sympathetic strike at "an appropriate time." *Sat. 8-24-46*

CIO Given Jurisdiction

According to FTA-CIO announcements following the recent negotiations, Campbell Soup agreed to void its agreements with the AFL; the Salisbury plant will come under the jurisdiction of FTA-CIO Local 80 in Camden; wage and working conditions "higher than any in the East Shore area" were won for the Maryland workers; and the company pledged to cease efforts to "smash" FTA-CIO. Gallagher said the agreements forbids the company from "purchasing"

Last Wednesday, more than 3,000 Chicago Campbell Soup workers ratified the Washington Agreement at Ashland Auditorium. A resolution was passed condemning the brutal murder in Georgia, calling upon President Truman, the FBI and the state of Georgia to bring the culprits to justice.

"This agreement places a third Campbell Soup plant under FTA-CIO agreement," said Henry Gestover, "solves the threat of slave conditions in Salisbury, and opens the door for freedom from such conditions for all workers, Negro and white on the East Coast."

Dixie Prejudice Blocks CIO Organizing Drive

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 6-22-46

ATLANTA, Ga. — The CIO's organizing steam-roller is stuck here in the muck of traditional southern bigotry and anti-Negro prejudice.

There is no indication this week, months after the organizing drive was projected, that CIO bigwigs have either the know-how or the stomach for extricating their machinery from this Dixie quagmire.

Although both Negro and white Southerners preponderantly favor the CIO, in this state, at least, the AFL is showing more awareness in this area of the necessities for bringing the millions of Negroes and white workers into labor's ranks.

The Georgia Federation of Labor is reported to have five Negro organizers at work in this area, three of whom are members of the executive board, but to date the CIO has employed no Negro in a policy-making or organizing capacity.

It is true that the AFL holds strictly to Jim Crow locals for Negro workers, but the CIO also has failed to implement fully its avowal of equality. The weekly CIO organ, News Digest, gives the impression of evading the question of Negro organization, and segregates what news it carries on Negroes to a small section labelled as happenings among "colored members."

Van Bittner, director of the Southland organizing drive, John Riffe, assistant director, and Sherman Dalrymple, state director, are all on hand this week, and there is talk of a big offensive to sign thousands of workers in the textile and auto industries. The national drive directors also envision the recruitment of domestic and laundry workers into a CIO union which is yet to be established.

But these plans remain to date largely in the blueprint stage. Veteran Negro CIOers say few workers have been recruited thus far, and fear the reluctance of the drive directors to move boldly against southern attitudes may extinguish the bright promise of the drive before it has gotten under way. *The Defender*

Major blame for this initial retreat before Jim Crow and southern reaction is laid on the state leadership. It is reported that Van Bittner has expressed a willingness to hire Negro organizers, but ascribes the failure to do so to a lack of direction from the state leadership. *Chicago, Ill.*

Charles H. Gillman, state CIO and CIO-PAC director, is a native Southerner and United Automobile Workers' official. So is Thomas J. Starling, CIO regional director, whose district embraces Maryland, the Carolinas, Alabama, Florida, Virginia and Georgia. Both men belong to the Walter Reuther camp of the UAW. *Sat. 6-22-46*

Negro CIOers include among their complaints the charge that Gillman has kept several white organizers on the payroll for months, that these organizers have been largely idle, and that Gillman has repeatedly passed the buck on hiring Negro organizers to the national drive directors.

They also claim that the state headquarters employ only one Negro, and that he is assigned the duties of a janitor. Although the steelworkers and packinghouse internationals each have one Negro organizer, the UAW, which anticipates the establishment of Ford and Buick plants here requiring about 90,000 workers, has repeatedly dodged the question of hiring Negroes.

Meanwhile, they point to the AFL, which last week concluded a meeting of its 42-man Southern policy board with a jibe at the fast-talking, slow-acting "drive" of the CIO.

CIO Racial Unity Breaks Anti-Negro Ship Strike In N.Y.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-17-46

NEW YORK—CIO sailors' uncompromising equality last week broke an anti-Negro strike by an AFL union which squandered two days for 908 passengers and cargo aboard the U.S.S. Marine Flasher.

The Flasher, bound for Italy, was delayed when members of the Masters, Mates and Pilots, AFL, refused to sign because Collins Clarke, 26, a Negro was reemployed as third mate after being found competent by the owners.

They capitulated when sailors of the CIO Marine Cooks and Stewards union refused to work without Clarke and officials of the War Shipping Administration, owner of the ship, threatened to fire the prejudiced men.

Latest Incident

The incident is the latest of a growing number reported rising from the South, and moving North. Clarke, who was hired as third mate, was fired for "incompetency" a few hours later. Behind his dismissal, he charged, was the refusal of the M.M.P. members to sign as long as he was aboard.

After an investigation of the charges, officials of the War Shipping Administration, owner of the ship, reinstated Clarke and stated he was competent.

Ship officers of the Masters' union and Sailors' union of the Pacific again refused to sign. **Threatened with dismissal by WSA officials the reactionary clique of officers of the ship capitualted.**

Clarke then charged that the primary grievance was his race, although he was also charged with refusal to obey orders. His charges were substantiated by newspaper investigation which quoted responsible ship officers as saying that "discrimination was originally exercised against Clarke."

Learning of the dismissal, ship's stewards, who are members of the CIO Marine Cooks union, refused to sail unless Clarke were reinstated. Sidney Kaufman, port agent of the union, said his organization would oppose racial discrimination or "any other fascist-like policy" aboard American ships. *Defender*

He's Competent

WSA officials, who conducted an investigation, said they were satisfied that Clarke, who had made four trips as third mate, was "competent and entitled to sail on his papers." However, they said, they found no evidences of discrimination. *Chicago, Ill.*

"Many Negroes are employed in all departments on government ships," a spokesman said. "Competence is the only requirement to hold the rating for which a man is paid." *Sat. 8-17-46*

Members of the AFL union then refused to sign aboard the Flasher claiming that the WSA ruling undermined their authority. Their action was supported by seamen of the Seafarers Union of the Pacific, AFL, who also refused to sign.

Agent Helpless

Captain Harry Martin, business agent of Local 88 of the Masters, Mates and Pilots, said he was helpless to order the men back to the ship for they were members of a west coast local. Meanwhile, the Marine Engineer's Beneficial Association, CIO, whose engineers had joined the mates in refusing to sign, urged its members to return to the ship.

Provident Home Strikers Hail Victory Of CIO

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-12-46

PHILADELPHIA—Pickets withdrawn last Tuesday morning from offices of the Provident Home Industrial Mutual Life Insurance Company as strikers hailed the victory announced by Local 22 of United Office and Professional Workers Union.

The strike resulted from a company lock-out of the clerical staff, and terms of settlement were the reinstatement without discrimination of all clerical help with one exception. The dismissal of one person is to be submitted to impartial arbiters chosen by union and company.

The UOPW, CIO, is recognized as bargaining agent to negotiate a contract covering these clerical workers.

Officer A. Keene Horwitz, administrative officer of the Insurance Guild, congratulated forty industrial insurance agents, members of Local 22, who showed their union solidarity by refusing to enter the offices through the picket line.

21L 1946 CIO

Clothing Workers Demand Immediate Enactment of FEPC, End of Filibusters

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CIO's "Operation Dixie" Voted $200,000 to Aid in Organizational Drive in South

By VINCENT TUBBS
AFRO Staff Correspondent

5-14-46

ATLANTIC CITY—The appropriation of $200,000 to the CIO's "Operation Dixie" organizational campaign in the South and the adoption of a resolution demanding the immediate enactment of permanent FEPC legislation highlighted the 15th biennial convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America here last week.

Led in floor speeches by Roy Soden of New York and Ernest J. Wright of New Orleans, the fifty-odd colored delegates played key roles in guiding three union moves designed to aid the nation's least-privileged citizens. 5-18-46

Sparked by Wright, who set the convention talking when he asserted that "we in the South want to walk with dignity with our heads up," the colored delegates were immeditely recognized as a potent factor in the meeting.

His remarks brought thunderous applause and immediate enactment of a resolution calling for a $200,000 contribution by the union to the CIO million-dollar campaign to organize the South.

Later, when Roy Soden, assistant manager of the Laundry Workers' Joint Board of ACWA, New York, spoke, it was again recognized that democracy actually rules in CIO union activities.

Colored delegates represented in excess of 10,000 of the estimated 40,000 colored members of ACWA's 350,000 members.

In addition to the resolution urging enactment of FEPC legislation, the union demanded that the Senate adopt a cloture rule to limit debate and prevent filibustering so that the anti-poll tax bill may be passed; while still another championed the causes of service men and women as regards job opportunities and hospitalization.

Citing the contributions to America's war effort of colored people and other minority groups, "both on the battle front and the production front," the FEPC resolution charges that "discrimination against any minority is a threat to the security of all."

Must Guarantee Opportunity

Thus, the resolution reads, "Our government must, at a minimum, guarantee equality of opportunity" and the Fair Employment Practices Bill should be enacted immediately to guarantee citizens their fundamental rights regardless of race.

The attack on Senate lethargy affecting the anti-poll tax bill points out that the election device "deprives ten million American citizens of the basic democratic right to vote and to be represented in Congress."

"Reactionary Congressmen from poll-tax States who have not been elected by and do not represent a majority of their constituents have been perpetuating the forces of reaction in Congress and blocking urgently needed social and labor legislation," the resolution charges.

Would Aid Veterans

In one of the more lengthy resolutions, service men and women are assured "jobs and economic security in a peaceful world" as an ACWA obligation.

It is also set forth that Congress enact legislation granting terminal leave to enlisted men; provide more liberal allotments for education and easier terms for loans to purchase homes, businesses and farms;

Increase benefits to disabled veterans and their dependents and increase veterans' unemployment insurance benefits to a minimum of $25 a week, to be paid as long as unemployment continues, coverage to commence four weeks after discharge and continue for two years.

It is declared further that initiation fees for demobilized service men are waived by industries under the jurisdiction of ACWA, and members who served in the armed forces are exonerated from financial obligations incurred during their term of service.

Training programs for disabled veterans are proposed, together with an expression of indignation at the campaign waged by real estate interests in Atlantic City to remove vets from hospital and recuperation centers.

Votes Aid All People

New York's Roy Soden, in a 20-minute speech, reminded the 1250 delegates that it was the vote of colored citizens that proved the difference in many cases in the all-out effort to rid "Alabama, Florida and other Southern States of reactionaries."

Soden pledged the unqualified support of his union, the Harlem laundry workers, to the CIO political action drive.

The convention voted that CIO-PAC will concentrate its efforts in 100 Congressional districts where Congressmen have been elected by narrow margins and PAC may prove a deciding factor.

It was also set forth that PAC is on the warpath against reactionaries who have blocked needed social legislation such as the FEPC, anti-poll tax bill and the Dingle proposals for socialized medicine.

Among blacklisted Senators are Bilbo, Byrd, Wheeler and McKellar. Gov. Edward Martin of Pennsylvania and Congressman Fred A. Hartley of New Jersey were also singled out for PAC ouster attempts.

Workers Want Aid

Highlighting the appropriation of $200,000 for the Southern organizational drive, Jacob S. Potofsky, general secretary-treasurer of ACWA, asserted, "The workers of the South want protection of labor organization.

"We propose to help them get it and to secure them the benefits of a higher standard of living, and establish industrial and political democracy. The campaign is aimed at those who think it is their God-given right to exploit both the poor white and colored persons without any interference from any source."

The resolution ratifying the $200,000 contribution followed publication of the union's financial statement showing $5,336,783 assets as of last January 1.

Per capita dues, the major source of income, amounted to $3,591,026 during the 23 months ending Dec. 31, 1945.

From Washington, Russell Pearman of Local 457, Cleaners' and Laundry Workers, stated that he represented 500 colored out of a total membership of 2,500.

Represents Cleaners

Fred Lark of New York, business agent for a cleaners and dyers local, represented the one-half colored members of his 3,500-man local, and Miss Gertie Coen was the only representative from a mixed NYC laundry clerks' local.

Miss Charlotte Adelmond, NYC business agent, came with a mixed delegation and lobbied for eradication of a differential between male workers earning an average of 5¢ more per hour than female workers doing the same type of laundry work.

Charles Hoyle of Montgomery, Ala., represented the all-colored 254-man shirt workers' local which is the only organized group in the State affiliated with the ACWA, and sat as black inspiration to white delegates from Andulusia, Ala., who are seeking organization.

Mrs. Willie B. Anderson, shop chairman, represented another all colored local of 36 persons in Kingston, N.C., and Mesdames Nannie Ross and Esther Smallwood sat for the 1000 colored members of the 3,000-person laundry workers' local in Philadelphia.

Other delegates and the city local from which they came were:

Raymond Edwards, New Orleans; Miss Willie Wright, East Chicago, Ind.; Walter Carey and William Bradley, Detroit; Eddie Greer and John Jackson, Detroit; Miss Jackie Varner, Wilmington, Del.;

Henry Newton and Miss Addie Davis, Red Bank, N.J.; Miss Frances Watson, Red Bank, N.J.; David McKinney, NYC; Leatha Clark, Ernest Commodore, president, NYC;

Hexton Harding, Livingstone Moore, Alvin Frost, Gerald Marcelle, Arthur Williams, Luther Whotehall, Leslie Davis, Phil Cox, Winston Olston, Estelle Brown, Myrtle Toppie, James Lewis, New York.

Guests included: Miss Rose Clowny, Emily Quintine, Mrs. Ann Davis and William James, all New Yorkers.

The CIO Will Indorse No One

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

The CIO, engaged in an organizational campaign, has announced it will support no candidate in any race, either for Governor or Congress.

Thus is set to rest one of the favorite charges of some of the candidates who sought to pin the CIO rose on one another.

Jun 5-19-46

The CIO was most favorably inclined toward Candidate E. D. Rivers, but could reach no agreement. Therefore its members are released to vote as they please.

The CIO is spending no money in the political campaign. Charges by Mr. Talmadge that the CIO was spending "millions" against him were ridiculous on their face. The CIO as yet has not collected its one million to carry on its organization drive in Southern textiles, lumber and oil.

At any rate, it is out of politics.

Which will reduce political arguments considerably.

CIO Has Roots Deep In South, Heads Say

Defender

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.—Nonsensical is what CIO officials are calling the word "invasion" as applied by rival groups to their current drive into the South. 5-25-46

They said this week at their educational conference here that the drive has been growing in the South, as elsewhere, from roots planted deep in American industrial life and the union merely plans to grow some more—and fast.

To prove this point they cite records from as far back as 1919 in Gadsden, Ala., where Sherman Dalrymple, now secretary treasurer of the CIO organizing committee, was once beaten within an inch of his life.

Chicago, Ill.

"About the second meeting we held, in 1919, the entire bunch was arrested because Negroes and whites met together. Fifty-nine local workers were run out of town," they said.

Gadsden Best Organized

"But Gadsden is now the best organized town in the United States. The entire industrial end, including big rubber, textile and steel plants, is organized in the CIO."

From Winston-Salem, N. C., a Negro woman leader of the CIO Tobacco Workers:

"Before we organized we didn't know we had the right to vote. But now we have voting classes with teachers from the schools. The professional people are really coming around."

A Virginia textile worker, employed 47 years:

"Since the CIO came in we're free, we're not afraid. There's now a better feeling between colored and white."

"Best Thing Ever" 5-25-46

From Birmingham, Ala., a member of a local of Negro warehouse and wholesale workers:

"The CIO is one of the greatest things that ever happened to Birmingham. Our local's been organized three years and we've more than doubled wages.

"At first we had to meet secretly. When the boss heard, he asked who started it. We told him, 'Everybody working in the plant.' Then he said, 'If you want a union why didnt you join the AFL?' But we told him we wanted the CIO.

"Then the boss wanted to know 'Who am I to deal with? I can't sit across the table from a bunch of Negroes.' But that's just what he's doing now."

A white shipyard worker from Wilmington, N. C.:

"We're not letting the race problem divide us. We know we can't hold the colored down in a ditch without staying down with them."

CIO Progresses In East Texas

Informer

HOUSTON—With one more election in the Southern Pine Lumber company, the East Texas organization campaign by the CIO reached appreciable proportions last week, Organizer Garland Butler, stated Monday. He reported great enthusiasm by workers in the Voth area where 60 out of the 160 in the unit signed for the CIO.

At Honey Island 85 per cent, Call, 50 per cent, and Bessmay, 80 per cent of the workers have signed, he stated. In the Sillsbee district the percentage is not as good but Mr. Butler reports "definite interest" shown by the workers.

Faced with a slight set-back several weeks ago when workers in the Diboll area received "warning" against the CIO contained in letters to the workers and signed "Fact Finding Committee for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Butler finally succeeded in discrediting the message and getting a majority vote in all units at Diboll.

7-6-46 Sat.

The letter had succeeded in confusing the workers, many thinking it was from the Houston branch of the NAACP because of the phrase, "Di-advancement of colored people," but this was discredited, after the local branch here at Mr. Butler's request sent a message and a representative to the area denying that the letter or any other message of the type had originated in the NAACP office here.

CIO Ducks Race Issue In Drive Into South

By AL SMITH
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—How long can the Congress of Industrial Organization (CIO) duck the race relations issue in the South?

In its proposed do-or-die fight to further the rights of workers below the Mason-Dixon Line, the last American stronghold of cheap labor, the CIO will use the slogan, "As labor advances, the whole of society advances." Progressives are wondering if "As the Negro workers in the South advance, so the whole of labor advances" wouldn't fit the situation more snugly.

The CIO has made great strides in organizing the South. Southern workers, particularly in the steel and textile industries, enjoy wage increases and vacations with pay for the first time because of the strength of the new CIO unions. These same workers are wielding political influence.

Dodges Jim Crow Issue

But the CIO has dodged the issue of the Jim Crow local. Like its Dixie predecessor, the AFL, it has knuckled to southern tradition and allowed all-Negro and all-white locals. When questioned it has been evasive.

CIO knows full well it must organize the powerful untapped reservoir of Negro labor in the South. Yet it has held off or proceeded cautiously because it has found that if colored workers are organized first into CIO unions, white workers tend then to flock to AFL unions in an attempt to avoid association with Negroes.

There are exceptions to this pattern however. There are actual integrated unions in the South. But even in the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Sidney Hillman's own union, the situation on the laundry workers is far from satisfactory. At the Amalgamated Convention here last week this correspondent first inquired of official spokesmen if locals in the South were segregated. The answer was "No, we are pledged against segregated unions, our locals are integrated." However, when a Negro delegate from an Alabama local was questioned he said readily enough:

"No, our union is composed of all Negro workers, but of course there are the two white organizers."

Hillman Union Progressive

It is no surprise that the Amalgamated Clothing Workers will be in the forefront of the CIO drive on the South. Sidney Hillman, the president, is a figure to conjure with. He is an adviser and confidant of politicos and presidents and as leader of the formidable CIO Political Action Committee, strikes well-founded terror to the hearts of enemies of labor and liberality.

In Atlantic City Convention the Amalgamated unanimously approved its executive committee's grant of $200,000 to the southern drive and pledged to make this drive its number one objective during the coming year. Amalgamated Secretary-Treasurer Jacob Potofsky declared: "Some of these employers are carpet-baggers who have come South in search of cheap labor and to escape unionization. Others are native exploiters who think it is their God-given right to exploit both the poor white and the Negroes without interference. Through the poll tax and the white primary, these employees have maintained their political as well as economic power. Their representatives in Congress did not hesitate to combine with northern Reactionary Republicans to sabotage the 65c minimum wage bill. The same unholy combination obstructed the full-employment Bill, FEPC, and anti-poll tax."

The convention also unanimously approved resolutions calling for passage of the anti-poll tax bill, and Sidney Hillman himself pledged support for and cited need for a permanent FEPC.

Hillman sees and knows the problems and is under no misapprehensions concerning the South. He refuses to be pinned down on just what steps CIO will take on race in the South, but expects a great deal from the natural forces of democracy at work.

CIO DRIVE IN SOUTH PUSHED BY BITTNER

Neither Klan Nor 'Back-Door Agreements' Can Stop It, He Tells Steel Workers

By LAWRENCE RESNER
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 16—Neither the Ku Klux Klan nor "backdoor agreements" between employers and the American Federation of Labor can prevent the successful organization of the South by the Congress of Industrial Organizations, Van A. Bittner, director of the CIO drive, declared today.

Addressing applauding delegates to the convention here of the United Steel Workers of America, CIO, Mr. Bittner said he had entered the campaign with no misgivings and added:

"Somebody has asked me, well, what do you think of what is going on in Atlanta with the organizing of some few Ku Kluxers? Well, if this organization can't lick the Ku Klux Klan then we ought to be put out of business."

Sees Aid to CIO Cause

He said his reply to those who ask about "backdoor agreements" signed by the AFL was:

"I say fine, because if they sign any backdoor agreements they will have to sign at whatever wages the employers want to pay, and I know of nothing better than to bring a million men and women into the unions affiliated with the CIO, so why worry about those things?"

The CIO, he declared, thrived on opposition, and he explained that his only concern was over the amount of support provided by the steel workers and other CIO unions. A resolution supporting the drive was adopted after his talk.

He cited the rejection by William Green in 1935 of a $500,000 fund to organize the steel industry on the ground that it was impossible. This, he said, typified the AFL approach to any difficult organizing drive.

Sir Walter Citrine, president of the World Federation of Trade Unions and secetary of the British Trade Union Congress, expressed his disappointment at the morning session over the refusal of the AFL to join in the WFTU.

"I deplore that," he said. "I think I understand it and I would be the last peerson in the world to attribute improper motive to any person associated with the American Federation of Labor for their inability to take part in our great world organization.

"I can't help the conclusion that it is an anomalous spectacle to find a world organization established outside of which remains one of the oldest trade union organizations in the democratic world.

"I hope very sincerely thta the common sense, the unlimited experience and perhaps the affairs of world events may change the position, which has so far been taken in the world collaboration in the trade union movement by the American Federation of Labor."

66,000,000 in WFTU

Observing that the WFTU had 66,000,000 members dedicated to the common principle of raising the standard of living of working people everywhere, Sir Walter declared:

"If we are to wait until every one of us believes in precisely the same form of political organization, of economic conception, of governments other than the basic principles of democracy; if we are to wait for that we will wait a long time before we have succeeded in developing the organizations that we so badly need."

In resolutions adopted today the steelworkers' convention proposed making Jan. 30, the birthday of the late President Roosevelt, a legal national holiday; placing the control and development of atomic energy under the United Nations; elimination of the Wood-Rankin Committee; and a permanent fair employment practices committee.

The convention also demanded that States eliminate the prohibition of payment of unemployment compensation to strikers and asked President Truman not to reappoint Gerald Reilly, a member of the National Labor Relations Board, when his term expired in August.

The steelworkers expressed their opposition to peacetime military conscription and reaffirmed their belief in the urgency of establishing full understanding and cooperation "among all the nations, and particularly the Big Three."

CIO Slams Klan, Hits At Truman

Criticism of President Truman as "one of the best strike-breakers in the country" and denunciation of the Ku Klux Klan as a lawless organization featured the State-wide conference here yesterday of the CIO's Textile Workers' Union of America.

More than 300 delegates from 26 local unions of the TWUA in Georgia attended the conference at CIO headquarters, 75 Ivy St., Northeast.

CIO organizers in Georgia called the conference to give a forum for organizational speeches by Emil Rieve, of New York City, General President of the TWUA of CIO, and for Van A. Bittner, of Atlanta, Director of the Southern membership drive. However, criticism of the President and denunciation of the KKK stole the spotlight from both Rieve and Bittner.

CONDEMN TRUMAN

The most personal criticism of President Truman came from John McCoy, Vice President of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, who made a report in behalf of CIO's Political Action Committee. McCoy's remarks came after the conference unanimously passed a resolution condemning President Truman for his recent message to a joint session of Congress in reference to the railroad strike.

"It now develops that President Truman is one of the best strike-breakers in the country," said McCoy, in referring to the resolution previously passed. "His conduct in the railroad strike and the maritime strike leaves no doubt of where he stands. His statements to the press likewise reveal his attitude.

In Congress, the situation is just as bad. There, the action on such vital matters as housing and the OPA shows it is hopelessly bogged down and incapable of producing results beneficial to the people.

"The President saw fit to veto the notorious Case bill and I have a hunch that he did so primarily because of telegrams from labor organizations all over the country.

"For all these reasons, we must be actively conscious of politics and politicians and take cognizance of what they do and say."

Pete Millican, of Rome, introduced the resolution condemning the Ku Klux Klan. The delegates likewise passed this resolution by a unanimous vote.

The resolution denounces the KKK as "a secret organization committed to acts of violence against all persons and organizations who do not subscribe to its prejudices against fellow Americans of different races and creeds" and says "in the past the Klan in many states has served as an anti-labor force and has beaten and killed labor organizers, wrecked union halls and acted as vigilente groups in times of strikes."

GROUND FOR FASCISM

Further, the resolution says:

"The Ku Klux Klan has taken upon itself the task of preserving so-called 'law and order," as it construes it through its poisonous bigotory," and "any such organization which sets itself outside the law is a fertile ground for Fascism and is therefore incompatible with the democratic aims of the labor movement."

For these reasons, the resolution continues, "the Georgia State Conference of TWUA pledges itself to the whole-hearted support of the drive of Gov. Arnall to break up the Klan in the State of Georgia," and resolved "that each and every one of us pledge ourselves to expose the Klan and its activities to the proper agencies of government wherever and whenever it is within our power to do so."

In a brief speech, Rieve, in behalf of the national TWUA organization, pledged himself to continued work to improve the lot of the Southern textile workers. Within 10 years, he said, the CIO has raised the average hourly pay of such workers in the South from 36 cents per hour to the present rate of 78 cents per hour.

NOT ALWAYS "LOWEST"

"I now express the hope," he continued, "that God has not decreed that the textile workers of America should continue to be the lowest paid industrial workers of the country, and I look forward to the time when the pay of textile workers will be on the same level of that all of the other workers of the country."

For his part, Bittner promised to push CIO's organizational work in the South to a triumphant conclusion.

"It will mean a great day for all the workers and all the people of the State of Georgia," he said. "We must carry this job through."

Kenneth Douty, President of the Georgia Branch of TWUA, asked all textile workers to support Harry E. Monroe for State Commissioner of Labor in opposition to Ben T. Huiet, the incumbent.

The conference also passed resolutions denouncing labor injunctions and urging Congress to give proper support to OPA.

1,200 PULLMAN PORTERS JOIN CIO

CHICAGO —Approximately one-third of the membership of all organized Pullman porters have decided to join the CIO, according to a spokesman for the Pullman Porter's National Organizing Committee for CIO. This move was lunched shortly after the recent International Convention closed here. The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is an AFL affiliate.

"The Pullman porters are determined to fight for democratic trade unionism in our ranks," said Wesley Walker, National organizer for the new union. "The AFL and its International have become complacent in its representation of colored railroad workers."

CAUSES CITED

Other causes that led to the organization of the new CIO union included the reported refusal of the AFL union administration to report the financial condition of the body; taxation without representation; inactivity of the porter's union in organizing, and the "re-election of certain perennial officers to top union executive positions."

1946 21L

CIO

RALPH McGILL

Mr. Bittner Is Not a Girl Scout

The Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta Ga

I have given diligent attention to the public utterances of Mr. Van A. Bittner. He is the Chairman of the CIO's Southern organizing campaign. He is a good phrase-maker. He speaks softly, turning away wrath with kind words. But I do not for a moment think that beneath his vest there beats the heart of a Girl Scout.

He is aiming, he says, for the lumber industry, oil and cotton fabrics industries as his organizing objectives.

I imagine he will find some of them more or less push-overs. Fully two-thirds of the workers in those industries have been shoved around pretty badly. They have been under-paid, subjected to lay-offs in other than war years; and otherwise given an economic and social slugging. Jun. 5-10-46

It was of this group that Eric Johnston, retiring President of the United States Chamber of Commerce, was speaking when he said in his swan song to that body, that " . . . back-to-Harding business policies and a system of life resting on congealed and untouchable dogmas . . . loaded down with petrified prejudices . . . could lead only to the waiting arms of the Communist party." The CIO and AFL will try to get there first. The Communist Party's Daily Worker evidently thinks so, too. It refers to Bittner as a reactionary, capitalist stooge. Which may give you an idea.

The CIO will not, of course, find push-overs in those businesses which have sought to treat their people as people and not "as workers," to be exploited to the limit. But, by and large, I would say Mr. Bittner's boys are going to find the welcome mat out from the people in the many harshly managed cotton mills, lumber mills and in the new oil field sections of Mississippi and Louisiana.

Politics Mr. Van Bittner says he is not interested in politics. I read his words carefully and could find no hint of tongue in cheek.

The man meant what he said. He knows the political hen will fall off the roost into the CIO sack if he can get enough members in any one section to be a real political factor.

There is one simple political fact to keep in mind.

Let us take the Georgia political scene for our example.

Mr. Eugene Talmadge is insisting the CIO is pouring "millions" into the campaign. He further says they are pouring these millions into the campaign of young James V. Carmichael.

This is the worst sort of foolishness, as the gentleman well knows.

In the first place, the CIO, badly bent by the auto strike, had to put a special assessment on members to raise the $1,000,000 for the entire Southern campaign. It hasn't got millions. If it spends more on organization of textiles it will do so by assessment.

In the second place, the CIO is not supporting another candidate, Mr. James V. Carmichael. It hasn't made up its mind. It is somewhat friendly with Mr. E. D. Rivers, but it is not too happy about him or the situation as a whole.

Mr. Talmadge is yelling about the CIO because he knows he would never get a single CIO vote in a thousand campaigns. It gives him a good, safe issue. He can't lose, so he beats this horse for all its worth. Jun. 5-10-46

Mr. Rivers, who also has started his campaign, has said no unkind word about the CIO. He is hoping.

Martyrs It is not difficult to understand why the CIO votes in a bloc. It is driven to it. The CIO feels something like the early Christian martyrs under the Roman Emperors. Their critics force them to huddle together.

In return, the CIO is very appreciative of the politicians who belabor them. It makes for solidarity in their ranks and the obvious fear expressed gives them prestige.

As a matter of fact, the CIO has not been too smart in its politics. But is learning. Somewhere in its Southern ranks is a dangerous idealist. I imagine Mr. Bittner will discourage him or her. This idealist poured some good CIO money down a rathole in a race against Congressman Eugene Cox, picking a candidate to oppose him whom they must have known could not carry his own weight. There are other instances of political waste and inefficiency. Also there have been several tactless, stupid statements by CIO people. Mr. Bittner does not read like a man who will be like that.

But, just as a lesson in political science—the candidate who belabors the CIO and Negro vote is the one who can't get them and knows it. A politician will ride any vote that comes along. Don't get any wrong ideas about those boys.

A politician is a cat that sits on the fence, yet keeps both ears to the ground.

PHILIP MURRAY GREETS NEGRO CONGRESS PARLEY

Daily Worker

CIO President Philip Murray expressed his hope today that the Tenth Anniversary convention of the National Negro Congress to be held in Detroit, May 31-June 2, **"will represent a constructive contribution" toward ending discrimination.** Jun. 5-14-46

Murray's letter, sent in the form of greetings to Revels Cayton, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress pointed out that the CIO **"demonstrated fundamental interest in the struggle of America's largest minority for the attainment of equal opportunity. . . ."**

Full text of Mr. Murray's statement follows:

"It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to the Tenth Annual Convention of the National Negro Congress

"The Congress of Industrial Organizations from the date of its inception has demonstrated a fundamental interest in the struggle of America's largest minority for the attainment of equal opportunity and social justice in America.

"We have refused to confine our program to generalize on this subject. That is why we maintain an active and effective National Committee to Abolish Discrimination under the able guidance and direction of Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey, Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes of America, CIO, and George L. P. Weaver. Our committee concerns itself with discrimination against all minorities—against any and all prejudices based on race, creed, color or national origin. Jun. 5-14-46

"My best wishes are sent with the hope that your important deliberations will represent a constructive contribution toward the goals we both believe in."

CIO To Organize Atom Workers

Oak Ridge Plant To Be First Dixie Goal

Detroit

OAK RIDGE, Tenn.—The first "beach-head" to be established by the Congress of Industrial Organization (CIO) in its southern organizing campaign will be at the U. S. Government's two billion-dollar atomic bomb plant here.

The workers, who produce the explosive miracle that brought World War II to a sudden close, asked CIO leaders for aid before the organization plan for exploited workers below the Mason-Dixon line was born. 6-1-46

The Oak Ridge personnel, Negroes in particular, discovered shortly after the surrender of Japan that winning the "war for democracy" meant little as far as their working conditions were concerned.

Workers' rights at the plant began to crumble as rapidly as the buildings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Chicago

40,000 Workers

Unexplained firings, with Negroes in the majority, began immediately. Hundreds of workers, their seniority and length of service ignored, found themselves jobless with no one to aid them in their struggle.

Martin Wagner, president of the CIO Gas, Coke and Chemical workers and Oak Ridge drive director, said the atomic workers "are right in coming to an honest, democratic union to gain the security, fair wages and working conditions they so sorely need." More than 40,000 persons are employed at the 59,000-acre government reservation housing the Clinton Engineer Works, Tennessee subdivision of the Manhattan Engineering District.

CIO Regional Director Paul Christopher, co-organizer with Wagner calls the Oak Ridge organizing campaign "the most important single drive in the South," and added. "There is no doubt about the CIO's ability to complete the organization of the atomic workers."

First

Opposition to CIO in South

Cavin
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga.—The CIO will organize the Negro on the same basis that it organizes the white man, Van A. Bittner, director of the Congress of Industrial Organizations' million-dollar membership drive in the South, declared here last week.

He said that the CIO has only one objective—to organize the unorganized workers regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.

Asserting that he did not know whether the CIO would encounter trouble in its organizational campaign, Mr. Bittner added:

"Come what may, we're going to organize 1,000,000 workers in the South.

REPORTS OF VIOLENCE

CIO headquarters has already received two reports of violence, spokesmen said. CIO leaders said some of their organizers in La Follette, Tenn., a shirt manufacturing center, had been "roughed up" by American Federation of Labor men to such a degree that Eula McGill Amalgamated Clothing Workers (CIO) director there, was forced to obtain a permit to carry an automatic for protection.

In Brantley, Ala., the CIO said its organizers were ganged and warned to get out of town.

The AFL, which launched its South-wide organizational campaign in Asheville, N. C., Saturday night, is having its troubles, too. William Green, AFL president, learned that his radio address there was cut off when "unknowns" broke telephone wires carrying his Saturday message to a national radio outlet. 5-18-46

Mr. Green predicted a successful campaign for the AFL in the South, and addressed this warning to Southern industry: "Grow and cooperate with us or fight for your life against Communist forces."

Mr. Bittner termed the CIO organizational drive "a holy crusade" and said the campaign had no political implications and that CIO's Political Action Committee is not involved.

He ridiculed the AFL's drive in the South and called the AFL meeting in Asheville "a conclave and clambake."

He said the AFL has no right to call the CIO a communistic organization because a few AFL members are Communists. 5-19-46

The war is on". . . Both the AFL and CIO are out to organize the South . . . Each group has set a goal of one million members—and there'll be plenty of money spent.

CIO RR Contract Blow to Jimcrow

New Yorker 11:7
CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—For the second time within a year United Transport Service Employes, CIO, has signed a contract giving Negro and white railroad station employes in the deep south equal protection and equal opportunity for advancement.

Daily Worker 10-21-46

As in previous negotiations with the AFL's Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, which serviced its Negro Station Company and Local 67, UTSE-CIO, are: elimination of Jimcrow auxiliary.

Highlights of the contract recently signed by the Memphis Union Station Company with similar jurisdiction likewise include red caps, clerical workers, typists, calculating machine, telephone, switchboard and elevator operators, office boys, ticket sellers, ticket examiners, gatemen, information bureau and other set up with white employes and preference, improved grievance machinery and adjustment to seniority.

Under the former agreement, Negroes were restricted to the status of Group 2 and Group 3 employes. Jobs now will no longer be alocated on a group basis, but will be classified according to departments and no department may encroach on another in seniority.

Mon.

Locals Send 60 Delegates to Steelmen's Conference

Afro-American

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—More than 60 colored delegates attended the third International Conference of the United Steel Workers of America, CIO, here last week.

Elected representatives of their groups, they came from locals which include among their members 30,000 of the 100,000 colored members of the USWA.

Among them were John Thornton fo Washington, chairman of the CIO Cost of Living Committee, and Boyd Wilson of Pittsburgh, international representative, the highest ranking colored members of the CIO, and one female delegate, Mrs. Clara Trimbull, of Atlanta. Baltimore, Md.

10 Office Holders

At least 10 of the delegates, who hold local offices ranging from grievance hearer to president, were representing mixed constituencies and 18 served on various convention committees. 5-25-46

Significantly, it has been pointed out that the estimated 100,000 colored members of the 850,000-man USWA who pay dues of $1.50 monthly have a lion's stake in this union's financial business.

During the last six months of 1945, it was revealed over five million dollars were received in fees and dues alone. Sat

Union Objectives Listed

Described as "the heart and core of CIO" by President Philip Murray in his opening address, the convention objectives as set forth by him are:

To establish over the nation uniform fair employment practices.

To eliminate the poll tax system in the South.

To exact "decent minimum wage legislation from Congress."

To lobby for better social security legislation.

To obtain better national housing, particularly in steel mill areas.

To lobby for legislation of a better GI Bill of Rights.

To secure enactment of the Economic Bill of Rights.

To seek for the people greater educational and cultural opportunities.

To give full support to the CIO-PAC campaigns.

Largest Local from Gary

Sparking the unified colored action is Local 1014, Gary, Ind., described as the "largest local in the USWA," which brought eight colored men among its 26-man delegation.

It is estimated that a third of the union's 15,000 members are colored. The eight were Pat Riley, Alonzo Dority, Oris Thomas, Oris Cochran, Jacob Blake, William Hatton, Alfred Hall, and John L. Howard, vice president.

The ten delegates representing mixed locals and who have been equally active in all convention deliberations are: 5-25-46

James Brantley, vice president of Local 1465, Pittsburgh; William Holland, president, Local 3262, Landsdowne, Pa.; Chris Blocker and A. Blackman, financial secretary and president of Local 2146, Bessemer, Ala.;

Charles H. Wilson, president of Local 1814, Pittsburgh; Stanford Gibham, financial secretary of Local 1542, Detroit; Odell Manier and Clarence Simmons, recording secretary of Local 2079, Detroit; Harold Hogan, committeeman of Local 1959, Kansas City, Kans.; and E. W. Graves, president of Local 1961, North Kansas City, Mo.

Field representatives attending the sessions are:

James Mason, Canton, Ohio; Ebb Cox, Birmingham; M. Henry, Houston; J. Thomas, Atlanta; R. R. Grovey, Houston; James Troup, St. Louis; George Kimberly, Chicago; Joseph Neal, Baltimore; James Hart, Cleveland; and James Jones, Philadelphia.

Other delegates include:

John Berkley, Memphis; Al Certenberd and J. L. Ross, Houston; John Morgan and Julius Hawkins, Columbus, Ohio; Mitchell Oliver, Gadsden, Ala.; Dave Cobble, Bessemer, Ala.; G. Harvey, Chicago; Gene Fulton, E. St. Louis, Ill.; Clarence Vaughn, Coatesville, Pa.; 5-25-46

Tim Smith, Lackawanna, N.Y.; Lucius Love, Chicago; B. H. Oliver and Joseph Shepphard, Harry Johnson and Carl Davis, Pittsburgh; Huber Hall, Johnstown, Pa.; Ty Cobb, Chicago Heights, Ill.; Joseph Cook, Chicago, and Oscar Lewis, Houston.

ORGANIZATION OF SOUTH WILL HASTEN PROGRESS

Atlanta

As was to be expected, the Congress of Industrial Organization's determination to organize the workers of the South has given the white supremacist press and the Bilbos and Rankins in Congress a new theme for explosive tirades full of threats and denunciation. 5-14-46 Sat

The Klan is mobilizing and the old-time campaign orators, who often won election through the incitation of lynch hysteria, are again sowing their seeds of hatred and violence.

That is inevitable in the mighty struggle which is now recurring for the advancement of the people of Dixie.

But the CIO's organizing committee, we are pleased to observe, has not been intimidated. Chicago Def

Nor is there any need for them to be. They have something to carry to the people of the South which will be wholeheartedly accepted by the overwhelming majority.

Millions of Southerners—Negro and white—have long yearned for the instrument with which to improve their living conditions, with which to obtain a living wage for their toil.

The establishment of powerful bargaining units among the workers of the South will go a long way toward facilitating the development of the region's agricultural and industrial resources.

It will mean more and better schools, more hospitals and improved sanitation facilities, the electrification of farmlands, and the development of recreational and cultural outlets for the people.

In addition, it holds the promise of better government and is a step toward really representative government for the South.

For, though it is illusory to think that the abolition of long-standing violations of civil and political rights will automatically follow upon trade union organization, it cannot be denied that organized labor has been a powerful force in the struggle against the poll tax and lily-white primary.

Certainly, Bilbo, Eastland, Rankin and the others who purportedly "represent" the people of the South have a reason, a very selfish reason for their fear of the CIO's campaign.

However, it is not enough for the CIO leadership to reiterate their determination to organize the Southern workers, regardless of color, nationality or creed.

This, if not implemented to the full, would be merely to give lip-service to the ideals and aims of the CIO.

The CIO's drive is unlikely to be beaten by southern reaction, but it very well may fall far short of its goal through weaknesses within itself.

What we are saying is that there must be no compromise with Jim Crow.

We submit to Mr. Van Bittner, of the organizing committee, the proposition that any capitulation to Jim Crow practices by his committee will inevitably injure his entire organizing drive.

We say this because the tendency may be strong, when the committee is confronted by a vicious opposition from the poll taxers and white supremacists, to make deals with industrialists or even with bigoted white workers, and to resort to compromise on the question of Jim Crow as a means of signing up a numerically large membership.

But such a practice can only discredit the southern people.

Given such measures, and the aims of the CIO among both Negroes and whites, while it is bound to encourage those who hope to keep the two groups apart through racism and violence.

Some preliminary steps toward fore-stalling those who will insist on com-promise seem advisable.

Among these, we think, are such measures as the employment of Negro organizers, the inclusion of Negroes on the organizing committee, and an extensive educational campaign for all

Paper Exposes Trial

Chicago Defender

Publisher Jailed

Chicago Coll.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Freedom of the press suffered a set-back here last week when Circuit Court Judge Auten jailed L. Christopher Bates and his wife, publisher and city editor of the Arkansas State Press.

Judge Auten cited the officials of the weekly newspaper because of accounts of the trial of three Negro CIO members, which he said were written so as to "embarrass" and "intimidate" the court. Sat. 5-11-46

Negro citizens, particularly, were aroused when the couple was thrown into the Pulaski County jail, then later released under bonds of $500, each. Both were sentenced to 10 days in jail and fined $100 each.

Appeal to High Court

Chief Justice Griffin Smith has granted a writ of certiorari under which their conviction will be appealed before the Supreme Court.

The article in question, according to Defense Attorneys Elmer Schogen and Ross Robley, was written "in an honest effort to inform readers of the Arkansas State Press of the proceedings, and that in acquiring this information they used the court records as made up on the trial of the State vs. Roy Cole, Jesse Bean and Louis Jones."

The lawyers added that the defendants used "such other information as they were able to acquire from what they thought to be reliable sources, and without any intention on their part to embarrass this court or to interfere with the due and proper administration of the law."

Judge Disagrees Sat. 5-11-46

It was pointed out that the three CIO members were convicted March 19 and sentenced March 23, and that the article involved was published on March 29. Therefore, it was impossible to influence the court, the lawyers declared.

However, Judge Auten replied that since a motion for a new trial was filed on April 3, and overruled the following day, the case technically was still pending in the first division Circuit Court when the story was published.

Schogen and Robley were granted 20 days in which to file a record of the Circuit Court proceedings with the Supreme Court.

Sat. 10-12-46

Strictly segregated Negro workers, in the "Secret City" of Oak Ridge, Tenn., cradle of atomic energy, welcomed efforts of CIO organizers, and certainly succeeded.

Interviewed after the CIO, in a huge drive for members in the "atom city," won elections in the second largest of the three plants, Sloss said that workers "joined readily when I told them we stood for equal wages for equal work."

"The AFL drive ignored Negroes until the night before the election," Sloss said. "Then they threw a $3000 party. Maybe you saw that picture of those two jitterbugs in 'Life.' The boys in it told me later: 'We ate their sandwiches, drank their beer, and voted CIO.'"

The CIO is seeking better housing conditions in the area. Houses are shacks on stilts with the Negro homes, educational and recreational facilities definitely worse than other workers, Sloss indicated.

Atomic Workers Welcome CIO At Oak Ridge

Anti-CIO

Propaganda Stirs Lumber Mill Workers

Interracial Review
Houston Texas
Sat. 6-29-46

HOUSTON. — CIO organizers in East Texas lumber mills reported meeting with stiff opposition on the part of anti-CIO advocates who had preceded them to the mills and made speech and, later, distributed propaganda through the mails in the form of letters headed: "Facts You Should Know About the CIO and Its Dealing with Negroes." The letters were mailed from Houston, June 17, without signature and return address but were headed "Texas Fact Finding Board For The Advancement of Colored People, at Houston, Texas."

Termed "Startling Facts," the letterter outlined reasons why Negroes should not join the CIO. Number one was "The CIO double-crossed Negro members during the steel workers' strike called at Houston, January 21, 1946."

The other five "facts" included charges that white workers broke the strike and took Negroes' jobs while Negroes were on picket line "hungry and broke."

6-29-46

"At the Hughes Tool company," the letter charged that CIO white members "quit the union, deserted the Negro, went back to work and left the poor Negro members on the picket lines. They took many of the jobs the Negroes had. Since the strike has been settled, over 500 Negroes have been layed off or fired at the Hughes Tool plant. Some of them were old employees who had good jobs. The CIO is doing nothing about it," the charges continued.

The strike was pointed out as being the bloodiest in the history of Texas," and the slaying of R. H. Guess was played up in connection with "burning of automobiles, garages, and homes," and terror of women and children "as never before."

Sat. 6-29-46

The letter ends with a warning that the CIO will not make the government run the sawmill. Reference was made to the closing down in Dennorman, Louisiana, two sawmills "for three months since the CIO took over." "Hundreds of workers and their families are now facing starvation," the charges ended.

Negro sawmill workers were confused as to the source of the letter, some believing that because of the "Advancement for Colored People" phrase in the title of the name of t' "organization" sending the letter, it came from the Houston Branch, NAACP and, according to one of the three white organizers in the Diboll section, Negroes were afraid to organize thinking it would be against the advice of the NAACP.

Interracial

The organizers were told, however, that a well-known anti-CIO newspaper man of Houston had been in the vicinity recently making speeches against organizing and advising Negroes to look to their jobs, their bosses and managers for their jobs. "They are the ones who have taken care of you," the men said they were told.

Houston Texas

Soon after these speeches, the letters from the "Texas Facts Finding Board For the Advancement of Colored People, "began pouring to Negro workers, the men told the organizers.

A telegram from one of the organizers to the local office NAACP was received Tuesday, June 18, on the eve of the mass meeting in Diboll. The sender requestd the local branch to send a wire and a representative denying that any communication from the office here had been sent to anyone in Diboll. The wire was sent and a representative from Houston attended the meeting in Diboll.

Sat.

The representative reported that half the Negroes attended the mass meeting held in the Negro community next door to Watt's Store, "because of discriminatory practices long existing causing Negroes to be reluctant to go into a white community for the meeting. The whites broke the rule in the interest of organization, and came on the Negro "side."

6-29-46

The other half of the Negro population attended a barbecue given by the campaign committee of candidate for Governor, John Lee Smith.

A majority of whites attended the meeting, many of whom had seen the letters received by Negroes, the representative reported, and said that many of the Negroes naturally associated the phrase, "Advancement for Colored People," with Mrs. Lula B. White, executive secretary of the local branch NAACP. The people expressed happiness to be informed that Mrs. White had nothing to do with it, the representative stated.

The three organizers in the CIO's campaign of organizing the South, are working with the employees of the Southern Pine Lumber Mill whose principal stockholders are reported to be a Temple, Texas, family.

6-29-46

Persons supposed to represent the management of the company are reported to have told Negroes and whites in the box factory and the handle plant that if the CIO took over, they would close the plant, the representative stated. The union's interpretation of this was reported as an unfair labor practice, but due to the closeness of the date for voting under NLRB rules, they refused to place any unfair labor charge against the company.

For this reason, the company is reported to have compromised and issued a statement that "the management is not opposed to employees having a union either CIO or other and in the event such is the case, the company's interest is still in operating the lumber company and it will remain in operation."

Negro Says Robed Trio Told Him to Quit Union

Courier-Journal

Miami, Fla., Aug. 5 (AP)—The Miami Herald quoted a Pan American Airways Negro employee tonight as saying he had been stopped on his way to work by three men in black hoods and gowns and warned to quit his union activity.

Louis. 8-6-46

"If you don't," Roosevelt Winfield quoted one of the men as saying, "we'll give you a chance to drink up part of that water in the bay."

Louisville, Ky.

He is the "lead" cleaner in P.A.A. offices at Miami International Airport and chief shop steward for the 400 men in the Negro section of the C.I.O.-Air Transport Workers.

Louis. 8-6-46

The CIO's million-dollar campaign to organize Southern workers, which began six weeks ago, is already beginning to show effects, and if successful will profoundly change the status of millions of Negro workers who previously have had no connection with organized labor. Neither the Ku Klux Klan nor any other reactionary agency will be able to stop this trend.

Hillman Lashes Anti-FEPC Bloc In Congress

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-11-46

Clothing Workers' Convention Opens At Atlantic City

By AL SMITH
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—"The congressional coalition of reaction callously has denied full citizenship to the Negro people by filibustering the Fair Employment Practices and Anti-Poll Tax Acts," declared Sidney Hillman, president, keynoting the 15th biennial convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America Monday.

Problems of minority group workers will be given major consideration by the 1,100 delegates meeting in Convention Hall here this week.

Sat. 8-11-46

First on the agenda is a detailed consideration of ways and means of pushing organization of workers in the South. Amalgamated has already contributed $200,000 for this drive by the CIO.

No-Bans Pledge

The powerful union has pledged that there shall be no Jim Crow locals in Dixie. It now has locals in Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, Louisiana, Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Texas.

Most of the 25,000 Negro workers who are members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers belong to locals of the Laundry Workers and Cleaners and Dyers.

Representing them on the joint Laundry Workers' board with the title of assistant manager is a Negro, Roy Soden of New York.

Some 70 Negroes are here as delegates and are housed with white delegates in Chelsea Boardwalk Hotel.

Sat. 8-11-46

Additional items on the agenda include planning for the formation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, which will entail discussion of the plight of Negro workers among colonial peoples. Sen. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) will speak at the session on this subject.

Of further and particular interest to Negro workers are the session on the 65-cent minimum wage, which is denied to some five and one-half million workers, mostly colored; and employment of veterans. Because of its sedentary nature, the clothing industry offers a good field for the employment of disabled vets of all races.

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America is one of the most powerful of the CIO unions, with 325,000 members in the United States and Canada. It owns and operates two labor banks, the Amalgamated Bank of New York and the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago. It also has credit unions in many cities with assets totaling $6,000,000.

Operation Dixie Slow Going

News-Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31—Operation Dixie, the CIO drive to organize 1,000,000 workers in the Southern states, is no prairie fire. That conclusion is inescapable after talks with numerous CIO organizers, and with observant Southerners of various shades of political opinion. One CIO leader, asked whether he thought that the stated objective of 1,000,000 new CIO members would eventually be achieved, replied cautiously that the CIO would eventually represent 1,000,000 workers in the South, which is of course something else again.

Sun. 9-1-46

There are sectors where organization is proceeding really rapidly, but on the whole the pace is slow. In a number of states the potential of unorganized workers is estimated as high as 75,000 or 100,000. Yet in most of these states the number of workers actually organized since the drive began and holding shiny new CIO cards is well down in four figures. At the beginning of the drive, there was optimistic talk of success within 10 months. Forecasts are now lengthening out to two years and more.

* * *

TOP LEADERS OF THE DRIVE (as distinguished from already established Southern CIO leaders, who are often up to their eyeballs in politics) look carefully blank at any mention of politics, failing even to react noticeably to the name of Eugene Talmadge, who in his time has shoved union organizers into the Georgia equivalent of concentration camps. "In 1936," remarked one organizer nostalgically to this reporter, "we were building a new heaven and a new earth. Now we're just doing a tough routine job of organizing." It has been made abundantly clear that Communists need not apply, and the drive is proceeding on a strictly businesslike basis.

Perhaps partly for this reason, there has been remarkably little bitterness on either side. This does not mean that all is sweetness and light between employers and the unions. There is talk of unscrupulous tactics in small company-controlled towns. But neither side seems able to work itself into a really sincere lather about the opposition. There is none of that deep bitterness which led to the open warfare of the '30s. Union men complain that the big chains, like the Cannon textile chain (probably the most important single objective of the drive, and a tough nut so far uncracked) are keeping one jump ahead by boosting wages. However much it may annoy the organizers, this is surely not a wholly unhealthy reaction.

* * *

THOUGH THE PACE of the drive may be slow, it seems certain that sooner or later a good proportion of the Southern industrial workers will be organized under the CIO banner, which is sure to have political significance. The CIO already had more than 300,000 men organized in the South before the drive began.

Some conservative Southerners assert that CIO support for a candidate antagonizes as many votes as it attracts. But most knowledgeable observers disagree, on the theory that a voter who would oppose a candidate because he had CIO support would oppose such a candidate anyway. It is significant that in Alabama, where CIO membership is around 50,000, both John Sparkman and James Folsom were asked privately whether they would prefer open CIO backing or an attitude of benevolent neutrality. Both men, neither of them fools when it comes to reckoning up political pluses and minuses, plumped squarely for CIO support.

It is obvious that in the predominantly rural South the CIO will never have the great political influence it has in the most highly industrial states. Yet already in a number of Southern states it holds the balance of power in case of a very close or very light vote. Although this will have no immediate or dramatic political effect, it will nevertheless be a development of real national significance. But those who think that the Bilbos and Talmadges, who draw their strength almost entirely from the rural vote, will then vanish overnight, are indulging in the silliest kind of wishful thinking.—©

— LABOR BRIEFS —

Public Workers Union Names Negro to Staff

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Fri. 7-12-46

NEGRO UNION LEADER, Henry B. Shepard, former employee of the Foreign Economic Administration and the State Department, was appointed to the organizing staff of the United Public Workers of America, regional director Daniel J. Schwartz for the Maryland-District of Columbia area announced. During the past year Shepard has been a leading member of the Washington CIO Council and has been active in negotiations for employes of his department. He will be part of the staff of organizers who will shortly launch a drive to organize employes of the Veterans Administration at the Capital where discrimination against Negro workers is rife.

Rock I. R.R. Adds Two Negro Doctors To Staff

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat

KANSAS CITY, Kans.—A victory in the fight against the Jim Crow hiring policy of the Rock Island Railroad in this city by the Transport Union, CIO, was announced in the appointment of two Negro doctors to the medical staff of the road this week.

The appointment of Drs. W. W. Andrews and Arthur Hibbler to the hospital staff are the culmination of a 20-year battle by the workers for recognition of their rights on the C.R.I. and P. under the road's hospital plan. Their future efforts will be turned to getting union representation on the hospital board.

7-20-46

INDIANA CIO ELECTS NEGRO VICE-PRESIDENT

The Worker

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The eighth annual convention of the Indiana State Industrial Union Council (CIO) adjourned its sessions following the unanimous reelection of James McEwan, president, and Walter Frisbie, secretary-treasurer. The 600 delegations in attendance likewise demonstrated a progressive position for equal rights by electing Patrick Riley, Negro steelworker from Lake County, as vice-president.

Sun. 8-4-46

Two issues—spiraling prices and increased wages remained a high point in the discussion throughout the convention. In its resolution dealing with this important problem, it commended the leadership of Philip Murray, and emphasized that the reactionary monopolists can only be successfully combatted by building the broadest unity of labor and the consumers. The resolution emphasized that increased wages must go hand-in-hand with the fight to roll back prices. It instructed the State CIO Executive Council immediately to proceed in developing the broadest unity in the state in planning statewide demonstrations of buyers' strikes and other actions to compel Congress and the administration to halt the drive towards inflation and economic crisis.

Sunday 8-4-46

STRESS WAS PLACED on defeating in the 1946 elections the Jenner-Gates Republicans who are tied with the Taft-Vandenberg reactionaries. At the same time, however, the Truman Administration was sharply criticized.

In dealing with a third party, the resolution stated **"the Truman Administration has departed from Roosevelt's foreign and domestic policies . . ." and that "The Northern bloc of reactionary Republicans and Bourbon Tory Southern Democrats have created a situation in which labor finds ever fewer spokesmen for its cause in either party."**

The resolution stressed the need of developing labor's independent political role through building the PAC and strengthening its political organization in the wards and precincts, counties and states throughout the nation.

In the 1946 elections through such action, the resolution stated, of presenting a constructive program and of "enlisting the support of people's organizations, farmers, AFL, and other peple's organizations will it be possible for the defeat of many of labor's enemies and the election of some of its friends."

New York

IT STRESSED the working in "the closest harmony with its friends within the Democratic and Republican parties," and resolved: "That the Indiana CIO declares itself in principle in favor of the eventual formation of a third party, that it opposes, however, as harmful any steps in this direction at the present time; recognizing that the 1946 elections in Indiana require the building of PAC organizations in the wards and precincts behind its program and candidates, only through such organization and activity will it be possible to build the groundwork for a new people's party in the state and nation for the 1948 elections." This resolution was adopted unanimously.

The convention adopted a resolution unanimously denouncing the intervention of armed forces in China and aid to the Kuomintang regime as imperialistic and demanded in the interest of united and democratic China the immediate withdrawal of all American armed forces from that country.

Among the numerous resolutions adopted which dealt with many important issues, the need for cementing Negro and white unity and wiping out Jimcrow, highlighted the convention. Revels Cayton, representing the National Negro Congress, addressed the convention and presented the program of the National Negro Congress.

7-4-46 Sun

Red-baiting was emphatically repudiated by the delegates who on numerous occasions pointed out that this was the weapon of the splitters and disrupters of the labor movement.

With The Press

EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM NEWSPAPERS OVER THE NATION

NEGROES FOR— WHITES AGAINST

Textile Bulletin, Charlotte, N. C.

Recent elections seem to show that Negroes are almost 100 per cent for the CIO while Southern whites are now overwhelmingly against that organization.

That is logical, as the CIO at its Atlantic City convention voted unanimous approval of the enactment by Congress of the proposed FEPC law which would force social equality with Negroes upon the people of the South.

Organizers from the North tell the Negro workers in tobacco plants that the CIO will force white people to do away with all segregation laws and admit Negroes to hotels and restaurants and permit them to work side by side with whites.

As the result of such assertions the following have been the results of elections held in tobacco plants, where most of the employees are Negroes:

At the L. B. Jenkins Tobacco Co., Kinston, N. C., the vote was:

For the CIO	478
For the company	4

At Export Leaf Tobacco Co., Greenville, N. C., the vote was:

For the CIO	286
For the company	3

At the Burley Bright Tobacco Co. at Smithfield, N. C., the vote was:

For the CIO	263
For the company	21
For the AF of L	2

These are only a few of the tobacco companies, with almost 100 per cent Negro employees, which have voted for the CIO after the Negro employees were told by organizers that the CIO would assist them to attain social equality with whites.

Turning now to votes in textile plants, where the employees are almost 100 per cent of Anglo-Saxon blood, the vote in recent elections has been as follows:

At the May McEwen Kaiser Co., Burlington, N. C., the vote was:

For the company	331
For the CIO	81

At the Guilford Hosiery Mills, High Point, N. C.:

For the company	134
For the CIO	126

At the Douglas Mill, Douglasville, Ga.:

For the company	288
For the CIO	160

At the Forsyth Cotton Mills, Forsyth, Ga.:

For the company	94
For the CIO	35

At the Wyatt Knitting Co., Sanford, N. C.:

For the company	19
For the CIO	8

At the Fontaine Converting Works, Martinsville, Va.:

For the company	81
For the CIO	67

At the Cottonville Mills, Gastonia, N. C.:

For the company	391
For the CIO	39

The elections show very clearly that, as far as the South is concerned, the CIO, which favors the FEPC and social equality for Negroes, is in high favor with Negroes but steadily losing ground with white people and it might be almost said that the CIO is an organization which favored social equality between Negroes and whites.

We do not believe that anyone will contend that the average of the employees at the Cutter Mfg. Co. is quite up to the standard of many other cotton mills in that section, but we had not believed that they would vote to as far as join an organization which favored so-cial equality between Negroes and social

At Acme Machine & Tool Co., Charlotte, N. C.:

For the company	14
For the CIO	6

At Acme Machine & Tool Co., Char-lotte, N. C.:

For the company	15
For the CIO	5

These elections and many others show a striking contrast with the vote at the tobacco companies where the employees are almost all Negroes.

inization for Negroes.

The sole recent exception, as far as we have been able to learn, has been at the election at the Cutter Mfg. Co. at Rock Hill, S. C., where the vote was:

Santa Fe System Waiters Win $400,000 Christmas Victory

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 12-21-46

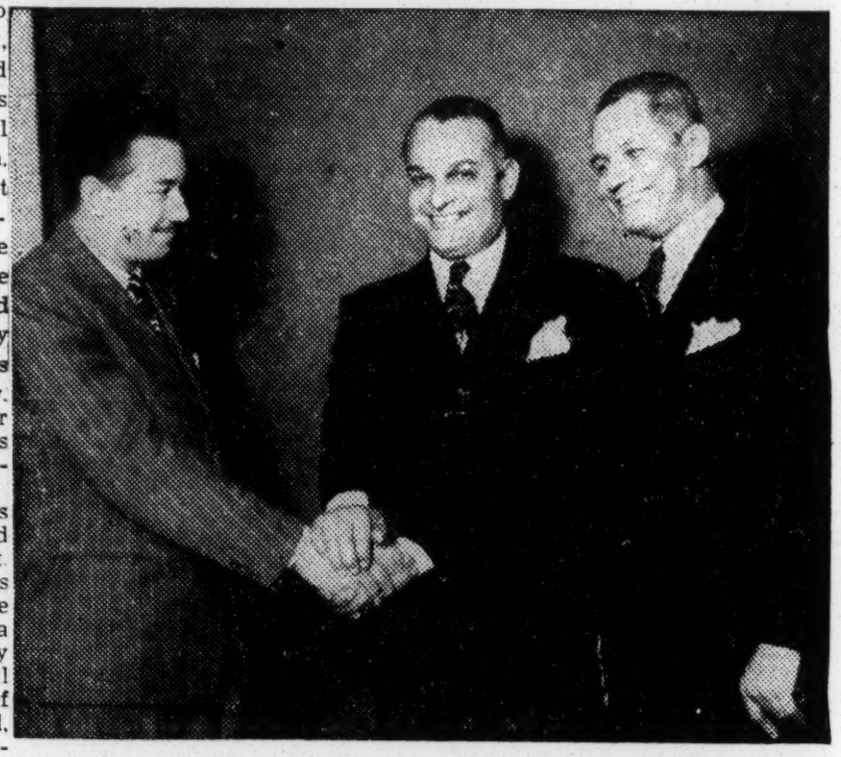
One of the greatest victories among labor unions led by Negro workers was chalked up last week, when the Santa Fe railroad paid more than $400,000 in back wages to employees belonging to Local 351, Dining Car Employees union.

The victory climaxed a fight opened last March 7, by Atty. Sidney A. Jones, for overtime due workers under the Federal Wage and Hour law. The charge named the railroad and Fred Harvey Service Inc. Although railroads do not come under the law Atty. Jones proved that dining car workers were in fact, employees of Fred Harvey, a catering service.

Pass privileges on other railroads were also granted employees and their dependents in the settlement. Besides these gains, employees were included under the Santa Fe employees hospitalization plan, a goal they had sought for many years. Dining car employees will now be considered employees of the railroad, and will be entitled, to benefits of the Railroad Retirement act, and the Railway Labor Act.

Under the agreement, each Fred Harvey employee with five years' seniority will receive $225. Men with less service will receive proportionate amounts. The company also agreed to a two and a half cent hourly wage boost, retroactive to May 22.

$400,000 FOR CHRISTMAS



Waiters and dining car employees of Fred Harvey and the Santa Fe railroad will have $400,000 to divide up for their Christmas stockings, this year since Local 351, Dining Car Employees union won the wage settlement on back pay and other benefits for its members. Besides back pay, the union won wage increases, pass privileges, and free hospitalization. Photo shows leaders in the negotiations with the company congratulating each other on the victory. Left to right: Atty. Sidney A. Jones, union lawyer; Howard L. Stevenson, system chairman, Local 351; and Warren S. Seltzer, general chairman, Local 351.

Santa Fe Employes Collect $400,000

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Fri. 12-20-46

CHICAGO—(ANP)—One of the greatest victories by any union led by Negro workers was realized here last week when the Santa Fe Railroad Company, after nine months of negotiations, paid approximately $400,000 to union officials for distribution to 1,557 employees in the dining car service of the company.

On March 7, the Dining Car Employes Union, Local 351, instituted suit for overtime wages against Fred Harvey and Fred Harvey Service, Inc., on behalf of all the dining car employes in the hire of Fred Harvey on the Santa Fe dining car system.

The charge was that the workers were entitled to overtime under the federal wage and hour law. Employees of railroads do not come under this law, but the union contended that although they worked on the Santa Fe line, they were in fact employees of Fred Harvey, a catering company, which was not a railroad nor a common carrier.

Exemption Claimed

After suit was filed, the Santa Fe intervened and claimed that the employes were really hired by Santa Fe, and that Fred Harvey was merely its agent. The defendants claimed that the employes were specifically exempt from overtime pay under the section of the wage and hour law which excluded employes of common carriers from such pay.

The union, however, pointed out that for a long number of years the dining car workers on Santa Fe had attempted vainly to get free transportation on other lines for themselves and their families and the right to participate in the Santa Fe employes hospitalization plan. These rights had constantly been denied on the grounds that the workers were on the payroll of Fred Harvey and therefore were not hired by Santa Fe.

After extensive legal maneuvers in the U. S. District Court in Chicago, a settlement was reached and approved by Federal Judge Michael L. Igoe, who stated that the agreement achieved "most substantial gains" for the employes.

21L 1946

General (Hobbs Law)

Hobbs Law Possibilities

Pittsburgh Courier

The Hobbs law against labor union racketeering which was passed by Congress last week and signed by President Truman may prove helpful to Negro labor, although it is widely condemned by organized labor.

The law is specifically designed to prevent interference with interstate commerce by "robbery or extortion" and to bring labor unions within the scope of Federal anti-racketeering statutes.

It states that "Whoever obstructs, delays or affects commerce, or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce by robbery or extortion shall be guilty of a felony, or whoever conspires or acts in concert to obstruct or delay the movement of commerce, or whoever attempts or participates in an attempt to do anything to obstruct the movement of commerce, or whoever commits or threatens physical violence to any person or property in furtherance of a plan or for the purpose to do anything to obstruct the movement of commerce shall be guilty of a felony."

The penalties are not more than twenty years imprisonment or a fine of $10,000, or both. Pittsburgh, Pa.

This covers a whole lot of ground and may go a long way toward preventing terrorism against Negro labor employed in interstate commerce, refused membership in certain unions which, by constitutional or other provisions, bar Negro membership.

It would seem to apply in the case of Negro railroad employes, truck drivers, stevedores, factory workers and such who might be hired by employers regardless of union membership, and to prejudiced labor unions as well as prejudiced employers acting in collusion with labor unions as in the railroad industry.

Honest unions and employers would seem to have nothing to fear from the law. Sat. 7-13-46

UNION FACES OPEN RESISTANCE; AFL LAUNCHES DRIVE

Pittsburg, Pa. Courier Sat 5-4-46

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—James B. Carey, CIO secretary-treasurer, declared here last week that elimination of the poll tax and race prejudice was part of the CIO's aim in its million-dollar membership campaign throughout the South.

Carey's statement was made after George Baldanzi, executive vice president of the Textile Workers' Union of America, CIO, told 1,250 delegates to the union's fourth biennial convention that open resistance to the CIO drive in the South already is under way.

He said Southern industrialists had already started a crew of evangelists stumping the South to spread the notion that the CIO is communist. Mr. Baldanzi, also vice chairman of the CIO's Southern organizing committee, promised the cheering unionists that no obstacles would prevent the CIO from completing successfully its drive to win economic and political freedom for Southern workers.

NOT AN INVASION

He declared the drive was not an "invasion" of the South by Northern organizers, but rather part of a movement by all American workers to wipe out any low-wage area and build an economy of full employment. Sat 5-4-46

The CIO is facing competition as well as opposition in its drive to organize Southern workers. The American Federation of Labor last week announced that it is launching an organizing campaign that will surpass that of the CIO. The AFL has set a goal of 1,000,000 new members and plans to open its campaign officially on May 11-12, at Asheville, N. C., at the third biennial Southern Labor Conference of the twelve State Federations of Labor in the South.

WANTS NO HELP

On top of this, the CIO has made it known that it does not want outside assistance in its organizational campaign. This stand was taken when a group headed by Congressman Adam Powell Jr., of Harlem, offered to give its financial support.

Mr. Carey, in declaring that elimination of the poll tax and race prejudice is a part of the CIO drive in the South, warned delegates that it would take more than the adoption of resolutions and contribution of funds to put the drive across. He said the organization of workers was the basic answer to the South's problems.

BETTER JOBS

Said Mr. Baldanzi: "It is useless to talk about world trade when you have a market of 35,000,000 people below the Mason-Dixon line who do not make enough money to buy the products of American industry. If we want to maintain a country of democracy, a democracy that will live, not because the gentlemen of democracy rule, but because the people who are part of this democracy want it and are ready to defend it, then this democracy must be translated not into slogans, but into good jobs, a good home, good food, good education, a chance to grow up with security and dignity.

"The only way that can be done is for all of us to dedicate ourselves to the building of the labor movement of America, because there is no other force in this country that is concerned with it as a whole." Sat 5-4-46

FIRST INSTALLMENT

He made it plain that he regarded the $1,000,000 allotted by the CIO to the Southern drive as only a first installment.

"No matter what the obstacles may be," he declared, "the CIO has made a decision. We are going to dedicate not a year, but as many years as are required, until such time as we re-establish the rights of citizenship for the workers in the South and take them out of this economic bondage in which they find themselves."

NO FIGHT WITH AFL

Referring to AFL's proposed campaign in the South, Van A. Bittner, director of the CIO's organizational drive, said he was "glad to see the AFL getting on the job, even if it is doing what it always does in following the lead of the CIO. If we have any fight down there, it's not with the AFL, it's with employers over the issue of higher pay."

Earlier last week, the convention of the United Federal Workers of America, CIO, voted overwhelmingly to merge with the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO, thus virtually assuring establishment of what leaders of both organizations maintained would be the biggest national union of Government workers and the only one open to all types of public employes.

TWO UNIONIZING DRIVES CONCENTRATE ON SOUTH

New York Times N.Y. Sun 4-28-46

Social and Political Effects of Rival Efforts Promise to Be Far-Reaching

By LOUIS STARK

WASHINGTON, April 27—The rival organization campaigns of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations in the South may well prove to be historic landmarks in the long struggle for unionization below the Mason and Dixon Line.

The drive is of special significance at this time in view of the increasing tempo of Southern industrialization, which appears to insure more rapid organization of areas hitherto devoted to farming.

The changing aspects of the physical scene will be only an element in the possible effects of the unionization efforts about to be made in the South. The consequences may well affect the customs of the population in its relation to economic, social and political problems and in particular to the problem of the Negro worker.

Although the South has repeatedly been the subject of the unionization "drives" by the AFL in the last fifty years or more, success in these campaigns in the miscellaneous industries has been a matter of recent years. Sun 4-28-46

Large Advances Shown

Organization charts of both AFL and CIO show enormous advances in unionism since the war, especially in shipyards, pulp and paper products, transportation, automobiles, railroads, steel, rubber and clothing.

However, the main industrial pillar of the South, cotton textiles, is still far from organized, although progress has been made both by the AFL and the CIO.

The chief attack by both groups will be on the cotton textiles industry. Figures are difficult to verify but some estimates are that there are about 375,000 cotton textile employes in the South, of whom not more than 100,000 are members of unions. The CIO Textile Workers Union of America claims the majority of these employes. The Textile Workers Union of the AFL is more modest.

Although there is considerable union organization in rayon and other allied textile branches in the South, the rivals will try to make these offshoots "100 per cent."

Next to cotton textiles the most fertile field for unionization, in the view of the labor federations, are the lumber, oil, chemicals, tobacco, food processing, utilities and service industries.

CIO the First to Move

In these areas of industry there seems to be room for a million union members, which happens to be the figure mentioned both by the AFL and the CIO.

The CIO was the first to announce its desire to conquer the Southern field, issuing a statement several weeks ago. Its headquarters will be in Birmingham. The other day the AFL unloosed its campaign, saying that a week-end gathering of some 3,500 to 4,000 Southern union officials would be held in Asheville, N. C., on May 11 and 12. Sun 4-28-46

The CIO, amply financed by a 5 cents per month per member tax, as compared with a cent to a cent-and-a-half tax by the AFL, will scatter organizers through the South in the next few weeks. The AFL will appeal for additional funds and organizers to its national affiliates. Both sides will try to limit their agents to Southerners, having learned the lesson of how easily resentments against Northern "carpet baggers" may interfere with the best laid plans.

The CIO's plan is to allocate or direct new unionists in each industry to their own unions. Textile mill workers would be assigned to the textile union, rubber workers to the rubber union and so forth. These are industrial unions and so include unskilled and semi-skilled as well as skilled workers.

The AFL, on the other hand, being largely an organization of craft unions, plans to gather into its affiliated organizations plumbers, carpenters, and so on. This, however, is only true generally, as many AFL unions now disregard craft lines and reach out for the inclusion of semi-skilled and unskilled members.

Of especial importance in the rival campaigns will be the appeal to the Negro worker. The war improved the status of these men and women and they would like to retain their gains. In some cases returning veterans are causing complications which the Negro employes are resisting, since they mean loss of promotion opportunities and in some cases loss of jobs. Sun 4-28-46

Negroes have, in some cases, been placed in line of promotion to skilled jobs formerly held exclusively by white men. If these lines are closed and they are turned back to "lines of promotion" that end with unskilled or semi-skilled jobs difficulties are likely to arise. The CIO, as the AFL, is already burdened with these troublesome arguments.

Disputes Likely

Undoubtedly, demarcation disputes both in the AFL and in the CIO are likely to be part of the grist from the campaigns now about to begin. It had been hoped by some that in the CIO, which is organized along vertical lines, such disputes would be foreclosed but that has not proved to be the case.

Aware of the climate of opinion in the South, the CIO seeks to eliminate left wing or Communist organizers from its rosters since the AFL and the employers are likely to exploit any support the CIO may receive from the politically unpopular elements and their organs of publicity.

The CIO will find it impossible to carry on its unionization campaign without at the same time paralleling it with the efforts of its Political Action Committee. The PAC, bugbear of many Southern members of Congress, may try to influence primary nominations, and if it does the fur will fly.

The AFL's political policy of "rewarding our friends and punishing our enemies" is no less aimed at elimination of anti-labor members of Congress and the federation's campaign will also include an appeal to the voters similar to that of the PAC.

As for the effect of the rival campaigns on the already dim picture of labor unity, few, if any, observers can see anything in the situation that is at all optimistic. If anything, the unofficial cooperation of AFL and CIO members at the bottom of the hierarchy ladder may be badly damaged by quasi-civil war which may be directed from the top by the leaders of the two national organizations.

Both Groups Face Color Problem

AFL Yells 'Reds' in Effort To Block CIO Drive in South

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON—The CIO's million-dollar organizational campaign in the South is no going to be an caesy one. It is going to have to compete with the AFL, and at the sam time, disprove widely circulated rumors that the CIO is closely connected with Communists. Here last week at the convention of the United Textile Workers, an AFL affiliate the American Federation of Labor's president, William Green, made it clear that AFL unions would base their Southern organizing campaign in competition with the CIO on the issue of Americanism versus communism.

Mr. Green repeatedly tagged the CIO with communism and declared that workers in the South must make a choice between "a foreign controlled organization and an American organization."

FIGHT ON REDS STARTS

It has been learned from a reliable source that several top CIO officials quietly are preparing for what soon may become a noisy, all-out fight against the Communists. Communists already have been rebufled in efforts to move in on the CIO's Southern organizing campaign.

The CIO is determined to keep its Southern campaign free of Communistic influence, and it is apparent that it will rid some of its unions of members known to be affiliated with the Communist Party.

The CIO has made long gains. One reason is that it has been fair to Negroes and has tried to admit Negroes on the same basis as whites. Yet, in the South, CIO union leaders are too astute to ignore Southern attitudes toward Negroes.

STRONEGR FOOTHOLD

Both groups already are established in the South, but it is generally felt that the AFL has a stronger foothold there. In the larger Southern cities, the AFL has considerable strength among the building trades, and it is quite likely that the AFL organizing campaign may use the building trades unionists as a nucleus.

The AFL is well represented also in the printing trades in the South, and in the coal mines, now that the United Mine Workers have returned to the American Federation of Labor.

President Green also believes his union has a better foundation in the South, because, as he puts it, "the Southern worker has refused to respond to Communistic appeals."

STRONG IN STEEL MILLS

The CIO is strong in Southern steel mills, and unionism in Southern textiles also is CIO, although less than one-fourth of the Southern textile workers are organized. The CIO had considerable strength among the shipbuilding employes in Gulf ports, but that industry is on the wane.

Both labor parties, in their campaigns, wili be confronted by the color line generally drawn in the South. The CIO may have an advantage here because the AFL unions either do not admit Negroes or else set up adjunct unions for Negro membership.

The AFL will launch its drive at Asheville, N. C., May 11-12. The CIO held an organizational meeting last week in Birmingham, Ala.

"LET GREEN ROAR"

In answer to Mr. Green's charges, Van Bittner, director of the CIO's Southern campaign, declared:

"Let Green roar and the CIO will organize."

The organizing campaigns are certain to create a political angle, too.

The AFL is likely to endorse certain candidates whom the CIO will oppose, just as the AFL got behind Harry Truman for the Democratic Vice Presidential Candidacy in 1944 when the CIO threw its support to Henry Wallace.

The AFL usually supports members of Gongress who have voted pro-union, without much regard to their stand on such issues as the poll tax and the Fair Employment Practices bill.

The CIO in the past has shown keen interest in bills that would benefit all minorities.

ASKS SKILLED JOBS FOR MORE NEGROES

National Urban League Study Deplores Unions' Color Line in Building Trades

Times

Negro building trades mechanics are likely to be excluded from fields where their labor is desirable and necessary unless contractors and labor unions "cut through a maze of red tape and misunderstanding" and make apprentice-training and employment available, the National Urban League of 1133 Broadway said yesterday.

Reporting a study of twenty-one key cities, the league concluded that "much of the effort to facilitate the employment of Negro mechanics should be concentrated at the level of actual construction—in the local community."

Julius A. Thomas, industrial secretary of the league, declared that the demand for more than one million skilled workers for the emergency housing program will "sharply increase" the need for Negro workers in coming months.

Mr. Thomas said that Negroes find little difficulty in being employed as laborers and semi-skilled workers, and that in some cities a comparatively small number of Negroes are employed as skilled mechanics. He added that "the chief difficulties" grow out of established practices of many crafts, and blamed, in particular, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters.

"During the past two decades the number of Negro building mechanics declined steadily and the average age of skilled workmen in the industry increased," Mr. Thomas continued.

The twenty-one cities studied have large Negro populations and records of the Urban Leagues show that only a small number of Negro mechanics are available, he said.

He listed those of the cities studied and the trained Negro mechanics available as follows: Baltimore, twenty carpenters, fourteen plumbers, nine bricklayers, fifteen plasterers and nineteen electricians; Chicago, 400 bricklayers, 300 carpenters, 300 painters, 150 electricians, twenty plumbers, twenty steamfitters, and 2,000 who have worked on small repair and construction jobs; Cleveland, thirty-two carpenters, fifty-seven bricklayers, eighty painters, nine plumbers, six electricians, forty plasterers.

In New York City only six Negroes are known to be among 30,000 members of Local 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and there are only twenty-two licensed Negro electricians in the city, Mr. Thomas said. He added that there are about 260 Negro carpenters, "half-a-dozen" plumbers, about 300 painters, 120 bricklayers and two plasterers in other building trades locals here.

Unions in Newark bar Negro apprentices, the study found, but Negro veterans are receiving some training on private jobs. Negroes in Newark unions include 100 bricklayers, forty painters, twenty-five carpenters, fifteen electricians, ten plasterers, five plumbers, seventeen lathers, fifteen stationary ngineers and one roofer.

Do The Railroad Brotherhoods Practice Democracy

Memphis World, Memphis, Tenn.

WHEN PRESIDENT TRUMAN cracked the whip on the railroad brotherhoods and forced them to start the trains to rolling, bitter denunciations were registered in opposition to the President's actions from Brotherhood Leaders in various parts of the country . . . In spite of the fact that they had to take it or leave it, so far as running the trains were concerned, it was done under a protest . . . a protest that seeks to build up a sentiment that the President's actions were undemocratic and put a stumbling block in front of free enterprise.

In raising this question of "Democracy," it causes this newspaper to ask a question or two about the railroad brotherhoods. Why do the Railroad Brotherhoods refuse to admit Negroes as members with full rights to vote and enjoy all of the privileges of advancement on jobs without race or color, seniority rights, full protection and why are Negroes discriminated against? Why are Negroes only permitted to work as porters, and brakemen-porters . . . Why? Why are Negroes not permitted to become train conductors and engineers? The answer is quite clear . . . the unions discriminate against Negroes and they can't get a chance to advance beyond train porters and firemen on some lines in the south. Is this democracy?

A federal Fair Employment Practice Law would end such a undemocratic practice.

IT IS HARD for Negroes to be sympathetic with strikers of these two unions because they are anti-Negro through and through . . . The record shows that no American with Negro blood, regardless of qualifications has not worked or cannot work as a engineer or trainmen. . . .

We mean trainmen "not porter-trainmen," who do the work of trainmen, but are paid as porters. The record will show that there are over a million Negroes in unions throughout this country, but not any admitted to these two unions In the south, these unions are applying pressure to do away with what few Negro firemen we have left as operators.

Some Negro railroad workers and race leaders have styled the railroad brotherhoods as representing the worst in labor racketeering where the Negro worker is concern. So it has been very difficult to arouse sympathy from colored citizens for the brotherhoods in this struggle and defeat.

We hope that this experience will open their eyes to the fact that the only way democracy can ever work . . . is for all of the people. Democracy does not work for a few . . . whenever a few are handpicked to enjoy the spoils, democracy fades away.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN won his first major victory when saving the country from a moral and economic collapse by cold-blooded dealing. His move in our opinion was one for the best interest of the nation and not for political power . . . President Truman has met opposition every turn of the way in his attempt and desire to get the reconversion program going. He has been severely criticised . . . But he moved last Friday and Saturday in a manner that has gained more confidence from people for him. Often, he has said that he desired to follow in the footsteps of the late FDR

. . . undoubtedly, he was touched by FDR's spirit in dealing with the railroad brotherhoods . . . We believed that FDR would have done it the same way, perhaps sooner and more cold blooded.

—From The K. C. Plaindealer

Union Official Who Denied Negro Halls Use Upheld

Columbia, June 28 (AP)—M. L. Wood, business agent of Local 253, Textile Workers Union of America (CIO), was reelected yesterday for another year. He defeated his opponent 417–34.

. . . ton and a state PAC official, a . . .

Wood recently announced that the threat to oust him from his union local union hall would be denied job. to state CIO and Political action committee meetings if negroes attended. A state PAC meeting scheduled for the hall, was held somewhere else.

Wood's statement at the time drew from Anthony Lucio, CIO maritime union leader in Charles-

Mabel Durham, Former Wac, Given Scholarship to Harvard

NEW YORK—Miss Mabel Durham, underwear worker of New York City, and until last September assistant to the chaplain of her WAC unit, is one of four Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to receive a Harvard Trade Union Fellowship.

Courses are given at Harvard University.

Miss Durham shares scholarships with two other veterans, Bernice Taylor, white, ex-sergeant in the Wac, and Harry Shugar members of a team of four garment workers of the International white, who was a staff sergeant in a paratroop battalion, Samuel Janis, also white and a union officer of Bridgeport, Conn., is the other member of the team.

Breaks Tradition

The admission of two women to the Trade Union courses at Harvard to study in mixed classes marks a departure from old established traditions at the university. The acceptance of a colored woman into these classes, at the initiative of the ILGWU, is another significant point.

Miss Durham is a member of Local 62, New York, and plans to assist in organizational and administrative work in her Local.

The ILGWU has sent students to the Trade Union Fellowship every year since its formation in 1941.

Boilermakers Grant Negro Workers Equal Union Rights

OAKLAND, Cali.— (ANP)—Jim crow died in the all-white Boilermakers union last week through a recent dramatic resolution that grants equal membership status to Negro shipyard workers, thereby bringing to a victorious finish a costly struggle against the powerful union that began during the war.

Information on the union's sudden about-face policy regarding Negro workers was contained in a letter from the union's president to Ray Thompson, chairman of the Shipyard Workers' Committee Against Discrimination which stated clearly that all "locals of the Boilermakers' union in California shall admit Negroes as full members, with no reservations" and that "all auxiliary locals in California shall be suspended."

The letter marked a climax to a fight which began in the spring of 1942, when a group of workers, headed by Thompson, made formal protest to the Ship Fitters local of San Franscisco regarding their policy of excluding Negroes. Joined by the Bay Area Council Against Discrimination, Thompson's group enlisted the aid of white workers in petitioning the international union for a fair policy toward the minority worker.

"I can feel only as one who has helped in a struggle which was for a just cause," commented Thompson in reply to a question as to how he felt by learning of the union's action. "Our organization has spent more than $3,000 in this struggle and this money has come from the workers themselves. All of us have suffered, so it seems fitting that all feel happy over the victory."

Walter Williams, chairman of the Shipyard Workers Committee for Equal participation, remarked that "this action on the part of the boilermakers symbolizes a victory of the progressive forces of America and our communities" Thompson, now a campaign manager for the Rev. Clayton D. Russell, a candidate for supervisor of the second supervisorial district, paid tribute to Rev. Russell for the part he played in the fight for Negroes in the Boilermakers' union.

Five years ago, the Marine Ship workers, an all-Negro organization, spearheaded the first legal battle for admittance to the all-white Boilermakers' union under the leadership of Joseph James of San Francisco's NAACP. The Marin ship workers carried the fight to the California Supreme court and won a favorable decision by declaring the "closed shop" invalid where discrimination was practiced. Auxiliary locals were ruled illegal.

Similar decisions were handed down in the East Bay cases of Thompson versus Moore Dry Dock company and Wililams versus Richmond Shipyard. In October, 1945, the workers at Bethlehem-Almeda shipyard went on a strike for 30 per cent pay increases and stayed out for five months. The management of Bethlehem signed a contract with the Boilermakers' union during this time, although the union was still operating auxiliary locals for Negroes in spite of two supreme court rulings outlawing auxiliaries.

A suit was filed, under the leadership of Al Brown, against the company and union restraining them from collecting dues from Negroes and voiding the "closed shop" contract to discriminating unions. The superior court of San Francisco granted permanent restraining orders in both cases and the Negro workers returned to their jobs.

The unions dispatched Negro workers with special clearances and refused to accept their money for membership in the regular locals following the superior court's action. Adoption of the anti-bias resolution has been interpreted here as a sweeping victory for Negro workers and a forward step for the Boilermakers' union. More than 15,000 Negroes are affected by the union's change of membership policy.

Court In Momentous Decision

Holds Auxiliary Locals Violate U. S. Constitution

TOPEKA. — Racial discrimination in labor unions empowered with collective bargaining for industrial workers was outlawed in a sweeping decision handed down by the Kansas supreme court Saturday, June 8.

This ruling by the high tribunal climaxed the two-year legal fight of 100 Negro employes of the Santa Fe railroad repair shops in Kansas City, Kas., to obtain full-fledged membership in the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, an AFL union, instead of the separate or auxiliary union status offered them.

This decision also reversed a lower Wyandotte county district court verdict which sustained the demurrur action of the defendant Carmen's organization. The workers through their chief counsel, Attorney William H. Towers and his co-counsel, Attorney Elmer C. Jackson Jr., appealed to the state high court.

Homer Hoch, associate Kansas supreme court justice, who wrote the body's opinion, declared: "Racial discrimination in collective bargaining which deeply affects the economic welfare of all employes involved is an intolerable invasion of individual rights."

Violates Constitution

Counsel for the plaintiffs, including Lucillious Betts and other Negro workers, pointed out in the brief submitted to the supreme court that the auxiliary division and classification tended to reduce Negro members of the defendant union to economic involuntary servitude, which is contrary to their rights guaranteed them by the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

"Said division and classification deny the Negro members equality of opportunity to work and to earn a living in violation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States," the lawyers pleaded.

Justice Hoch in his opinion agreed that discrimination because of race or color was a violation of the Constitution and could not be permitted.

This decision banning labor union bias is of more than statewide importance because no federal court anywhere has ruled on this phase of the labor question.

Justice Hoch said in the decision: "The rule is firmly imbedded in American law that the guaranty of due process—whether under the fifth amendment, as a limitation upon the power of the federal government, or under the fourteenth amendment, as a limitation upon the power of the states—is to be liberally construed to effectuate its purpose of protecting the citzen against arbitrary invasion of his rights of life, liberty and property.

Infringement of Liberty

"Certainly the denial to a workman, because of race, of an equal voice in determining issues so vital to his economic welfare, under the Railway Labor act, is an infringement of liberty if needed it may not also be said to be a deprival of property rights."

Legal action to gain admittance into the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen organization as fell members was started by a committee of Santa Fe employes composed of Douglass Doty, chairman; B. J. Nesbitt, treasurer; C. C. Davis and Estill Cooper. They were assisted by E. Vincent Suitt, then industrial secretary of the Kansas City Urban league and who now holds a similar position in Buffalo, N. Y.

When interviewed Sunday by The Call, Mr. Doty said: "The decision rendered by the Kansas supreme court has far more than compensated me for the efforts put forth in the cause. I trust it will set a precedence, and have great effect upon Negro workers in other parts of the country.

Far-Reaching Decision

"I am convinced of the justness of the high court's opinion and think the influence of it will be far-reaching," is the sentiment of Mr. Nesbitt, who worked hard for the cause.

Mr. Cooper, another committee worker, said he hoped the decision would have lasting benefits for other Negroes, minorities and all who suffer inequality in labor.

Lucillious Betts, an employe of the Santa Fe shops, served as one of the chief complainants in this case.

"It took quite a bit of my time going to court," explained Betts, "and some few questioned my becoming involved because of my job. Yet other fellow-workers did the same thing. Sometimes we have to 'stick out our necks' to help causes along. Sometimes we forget it."

It was on June 16, 1945, that Judge E. L. Fischer of first division of district court, Wyandotte county, sustained the demurrer action to the plaintiff's petition which decision paved the way for the Negro Santa Fe employes to take their case against the Brotherhood of Raiway Carmen to the Kansas supreme court.

Attorneys W. E. [illegible] and Arthur L. Ross, representing the defendant AFL organization, sought the demurrer to [illegible] plaintiff's court record on [illegible] following grounds:

1. That said petition does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action in favor of the plaintiffs and against the defendants.

2. That the court has no jurisdiction of the person of the defendants or the subject of the action.

Request Restraining Order

Attorneys Towers and Jackson had asked that a restraining order be issued by the court restraining the defendants from continuing to enforce the particular provision of the constitution and by-laws of the Brtherhood of Railway Carmen which divides and classifies members of the said labor union on basis of race and color; restraining the defendants from being bargaining agents with the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway company concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay, hours of employment or any other condition of work. Counsel also sought equality of privileges and participation in affairs of the defendant labor union and the restraining of the defendants from segregating the plaintiffs into a separate lodge.

Counsel Towers and Jackson also brought out in their brief that Negro members of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen were not permitted to attend the meetings of the parent body, local No. 850; that they were not permitted to vote on anything pertaining to the business of the said local and that the separate or auxiliary Negro union is not permitted to transact its own business but must be under the absolute jurisdiction of the nearest white local union. In addition, Negro members are not permitted to vote on the election of any grand lodge union officers nor are they permitted to participate in the determination of policy, said the lawyers.

Wanted Separate Unions

The action of the Negro Santa Fe employes to obtain full admittance to the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, an AFL union started in 1943 when a group of Santa Fe workers requested the National Mediation board (created by the National Railway Labor Act) to hold an election by which the workers would make the organization they wanted to represent them.

The mediation agency set November 26 and 27, 1943 as dates for the balloting.

Upon holding of the election and choosing of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen to represent the workers in the Argentine, Kas., repair shops of the Santa Fe Railroad company, the general president of the union, Felix H. Knight, sent Mott L. Fox to Kansas City, Kas., to organize a local union.

Negro workers claim they were told by Mr. Fox that they would be taken in as full members in Local No. 850 which he was forming at that time.

On January 20, 1944, a notice was posted informing the employes that a meeting would be held on the same date for organizing a Santa Fe local for white employes and on January 25 another meeting would be held to form a separate union for Negro employes.

It was on March 30, 1944, that the court action against G. G. Easley, president of Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, No. 850 local and other officers was brought by Lucillious Betts and other plaintiffs.

Torrid Summer On Labor Front Is In Prospect

AFL-CIO Battle For Control In South Is Now On In Earnest

BY VICTOR RIESEL
Labor News Specialist

THERE'S A SUITE OF NEW OFFICES just around the corner from those long atom-bomb plants in Oak Ridge, Tenn. These rooms are the symbol of what you can look for in labor news, now that—for the first time since last Fall—there's no threat of a throttling strike anywhere.

The CIO's Atomic Workers Organizing Committee has been signing up the men and women who worked secretly, virtually unknown until Hiroshima. Now the unions have moved in—and the CIO is competing with the AFL for control of the men who split the atom.

There is your preview—with all the trimmings—of what probably will be the Summer's biggest labor story; the knockdown fight between the CIO and AFL for the power which will come with being America's No. 1 labor federation.

* * *

LOOK WELL AT THE FIGHT for the atomic people. Directed by C. W. Danenberg, the AWOC publishes a tabloid weekly newspaper The Atomic Workers. It assails the AFL for charging excessive initiation fees in the secret area (as high as $250, and which recently have been dropped because of sharp criticism. It does not hesitate to talk of those few AFL leaders who are penitentiary graduates or are working their way through state prison.

On the other side, the AFL is following its 65-year-old practice of setting up a "department"—The Atomic Council—for Oak Ridge employes. It accuses the AWOC of being pro-Communist. It impugns the motives of the AWOC unionization drive on so secret a war plant.

And there you have the pattern. Whether it will be men in the atomic industries or those who cut lumber with a good old hand saw, the staid old AFL and the streamlined CIO will go after them this Summer in the pattern being set at futuristic Oak Ridge.

* * *

SINCE THE AFL IS MORE CONSERVATIVE and the CIO is talking in terms of what really are share-the-wealth plans, this corner will bet that the AFL will find more employes willing to sign with it than with the CIO. This incidentally, already is the case in many Southern areas now facing a CIO invasion.

* * *

WHAT ARE THE OTHER coming national labor stories, now that the big strikes—General Motors, steel, electric, coal, rail and ship—are over? It seems to me the headlines will tell these stories:

1. A new wave of wage increase demands will result from the efforts of other national labor leaders to win as much for their followers as John L. Lewis did. Under the contract he signed with the government, the miners won a 26-cent-an-hour increase—or 6½ cents more than the million of strikers involved in other major disputes.

2. An outbreak of strikes this Fall. The unions will demand pay rises to meet the increased cost of living. These walkouts will be more turbulent than the recent stoppages.

3. A new maritime crisis, beginning on the West Coast, where left-winger Harry Bridges has threatened a stoppage when his contract with the stevedore companies expires Sept. 30.

4. Sidney Hillman's Political Action Committee's efforts to prove that labor can deliver votes without the magic of Franklin Roosevelt's name.

5. The conservative's drive for laws to curb strikes.

It looks like a hot Summer from Atom Town all the way up the line.

* * *

THERE'S A PRESS PARLEY scheduled by an unglamorous, mustached fellow which I think will be not only of high priority interest to every American, but will be watched by the diplomatic corps and virtually every intelligence force, foreign and American.

Who's the coming attraction? Just Earl Browder, former No. 1 Communist. Unless his present plans are changed he will tell the press boys of his mission to Moscow and his future work in America.

What Browder will relate to the newsmen isn't really important. He'll probably point out that he isn't in politics, but he is interested only in furthering American-Soviet friendship.

It is what ex-Comrade Browder will insinuate, what will have to be seen behind the spoken statements, that will count. What Browder does from now on will be a sensitive indicator of basic Soviet attitudes towards the U. S. in the future!

Browder plans to tour the country, talk to industrialists and policy-making people. What Browder will say in those conversations will be important. Meanwhile the American Communist party with its noisy and amateurish r-r-revolutionary acting, will be very unimportant. The party's in a bad way and frightened of Browder, who was howled out of the party so he could be divorced from all official Communist activity here. He was not expelled because he had sinned with the capitalists. He was pulled out by the real powers in that strange and complex world of the inner Communist "apparat" for some special mission in America.

The coming press conference will be the first maneuver of Browder's mysterious mission — undoubtedly one of the most important jobs any man has ever had thrust on him.

* * *

UNLESS LABOR'S TOP LEADERS stop displaying their wealth and power; and unless the AFL cleans out its remaining racketeers; unless CIO President Philip Murray gets sufficient support for his current drive against communism in the CIO; and unless the top union officers come up with some labor legislation of their own, the public may crack down on them soon. Look at the Hobbs anti-racketeering bill, for example. It could be more damaging than the president's emergency demands, or the recently vetoed Case bill. Section 1C and Sections 2 through 6 of the bill can virtually illegalize strikes and picketing. Does labor want something like this or something the unions themselves can suggest to regulate industrial disputes?

* * *

IF THE LABOR CHIEFS are in a mood for suggestions, why don't they consider proposing something like the following to satisfy the public to to clean out corrupt unions:

1. A national labor board similar to the Federal Communications Commission to do for unions what the FCC does for radio—especially to prevent overlapping jurisdictions.

2. This board could conduct all union elections through some honest ballot system. All unions, under this law, should be forced to hold elections for officers at least once every two years and to poll all members on new wage demands, as well as strike action.

3. The board, upon the petition of a good percentage of the union membership, shall have the power to investigate irregularities, both political and financial, in any labor organization.

4. The board shall have the power to examine all union books, order the publication of financial statements and investigate the income tax returns of labor officials.

This isn't perfect, but it would be a start.

WHEN NEXT YOU OPEN that packet of cream cheese it may have John L. Lewis' label on it. He's unionizing cheese workers, also truck drivers, knitting mills and laundry companies and now has over 200,000 members in his catch-all union paying dues to the miners . . . First result of President Truman's smashing of the rail strike is the creation of the Railway Employes Political Action Committee in Texas. This tactic is expected to spread to other states. . . . Watch for a new labor war to break out between conservative and left-wing movie unions in Hollywood . . . Startled by the country's impression that the CIO maritime unions spoke for the nation's waterfront workers, the AFL has set up powerful maritime councils in New York, Baltimore, Tampa, New Orleans, Galveston and points West. . . . Look for a CIO drive on department stores . . . Walter Reuther's Michigan State CIO Council is taking its political action seriously. It has just paid $142,000 for a Summer camp and school on Lake Huron, where union lecturers will discuss politics and public relations among other things . . . A successful fight by Southern delegates at the independent telephone union's convention in Galveston kept the phone federation from affiliating with the CIO, as had been planned. The phone workers would have been a good catch. Potentially the 600,000 switchboard people make up one of the world's biggest unions. However, they will work with the CIO's Political Action Committee . . . Top industrialists fear a buyers' strike such as came after the World War I boom. This may be followed by a rent strike if ceilings are lifted.

Kansas Railway Men Eligible For Union After Court Ousts Jim Crow

KANSAS CITY, Kan.—(ANP)—The 100 Santa Fe railroad repair shop employes and their counsel, victors in the recent state supreme court decision outlawing collective bargaining labor union discrimination, this week were preparing for full union affiliation.

The group, which began the fight to get full-fledged membership in the Brotherhood of Railway Car Men, an AFL union instead of the separate or auxiliary union status offered them as Negro workers, said they felt well paid for the two-year fight they waged. They expressed the hope that the case would set a precedent for other sections of the country.

The supreme court decision, reversing a lower Wyandotte county district court verdict, was based on a principle of the Railway Labor act, which "imposes upon the statutory representative of a classified craft or group the duty to protect equally the interests of those whom it represents and not to discriminate arbitrarily against any such employees in matters affecting substantial in matters affecting substantial

Justice Hoch, handing down the decision, also pronounced the bias practice of the AFL union a violation of the constitution. Attys. William H Towers and Elmer C. Jackson Jr., counsel for the plaintiffs, had shown the court that Negro members of the BRC were not permitted to attend meetings of the parent body, local 850; that they were not allowed to vote on anything pertaining to the business of the local and that the auxiliary was obligtd to transact business with the nearest white local unit.

The court action, taken against G. G. Easley, BRC president, local 850 and others, was instituted in 1944 with Lucillous Betts, chief complainant. Legal steps were initiated after he and fellow workers were told a separate union unit would be formed for Negro employes. A committee composed of Douglas Doty, B. J. Nesbitt, C. C. Davis, and Estill Cooper, also plaintiffs, kept the legal battle going for the group.

In an interview last week, Mr. Doty said he felt compensated for efforts put forth; Mr. Cooper said he hoped the decision would have lasting benefits for other Negroes, minorities and all who suffer inequality in labor. Lucillous Betts said:

"It took quite a bit of my time to go to court, and some questioned my becoming involved because of my job. Few other fellow workers did the same thing. Sometimes we have to 'stick our necks out' to help causes along."

Dixie Unions Get Negro Raises—Not Better Jobs

People's Voice New York

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—In Birmingham and Alabama generally labor organization has reached a high level, the question of the admission of Negroes into all but a few AFL craft and railroad unions has been settled as an established fact, and the main problem facing Negro workers is the struggle for more participation in the affairs of most unions and the struggle for upgrading.

The progress of organized labor in Alabama in the last 15 years is astounding and the Negro has shared in this progress, perhaps more than proportionately, in so far as extent of organization is concerned.

Figures supplied by Cornelius Maiden, Negro AFL representative here, bear this out. Negroes comprise the bulk of the membership in the Teamsters Union, the Iron Workers, the Molders Union, the Hodcarriers and General Laborers, the Laundry Workers, the United Cement Workers (a relatively young union with a membership of 6,000 in Alabama), and a large assortment of federal labor unions in various industries. 1-26-46

In the CIO today the United Mine Workers has a dues paying membership of 22,444 and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers a membership of 6,000. This includes almost all the miners in the state. The United Steel Workers represents the 17,000 basic steel workers and some 18,000 workers in fabricating plants. The large packing houses and even the more centrally located cotton oil mills are CIO. Half of the miners and steel workers are Negroes.

Negroes have reaped great benefits in terms of increased wages and better working conditions from their union membership. At the same time, they find themselves usually still in an inferior position to the white workers.

In the AFL, this division is maintained through exclusion of Negroes from the higher-paid craft unions.

"As Negroes are trained they will be taken in," Mr. O'Hara said, but at the same time he justified present practices on the old basis that "there just isn't enough work to share and share alike. Down here we don't have enough work for the qualified white men."

Generally speaking Negroes are not satisfied that CIO policy against discrimination is being carried out in the state. "When the CIO first came to Alabama," Louis Burnham, Secretary of the Southern Youth Congress told me, "the Negroes were the first to join the unions and were the leaders in organizing. That was in the days when organizers were beaten up and there was a reign of terror against union members. As the CIO started to develop some stability and some finances, the CIO began to take on the features of the community in which it operated with all the disadvantages to its Negro membership."

"The big fight in steel is for upgrading," Burnham said.

Mr. Hosea Hudson, President, Local 2815, United Steel Workers and a member of the CIO Council here, said: 1-26-46

"It hasn't yet become clear to the white members of the locals that it is important for Negroes to hold higher offices and the union has done nothing toward the upgrading of Negroes. This situation is weakening the union.

"The pig steel at the TCI mills, the biggest steel mills in the Birmingham area, it has pretty much resulted in driving Negroes from the union in so far as they don't attend meetings. They don't feel part of the union or feel free to speak up as part of the union."

The failure of a recent state PAC meeting to elect any Negroes as officers was another example cited of general neglect of the importance of Negro participation. The welfare of the CIO would seem to demand an immediate correction of the Alabama situation.

Job Whispering Campaign Start

memphis tennessee

WASHINGTON — (A N P) — Southern white workers are being encouraged to advocate jim crow labor unions in a determined "union busting" drive, labor leaders charged here last week. Vicious anti-Negro whispering campaigns are going on in union halls where frightened white workers and told "there are not enough jobs for them and the "n-i-g-g-e-r-s too." 1-11-46

CIO officials have been wrestling with complaints that their unions have tolerated employer discrimination against Negro workers, said a spokesman for the CIO Committee to Abolish discrimination, whose organization has waged an all-out fight against racial bias. The Kansas City Urban league has charged that the United Auto Workers, CIO permitted downgrading and seniority cuts for Negro workers in General Motors plants before the GM strikes. 1-11-46

Staff Gives Guests $100

Amsterdam News, New York N.Y.

A delegate returned from the February national convention of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, which recently concluded its sessions in Cleveland, Ohio, told this incident:

It was the last day of the convention at the Hotel Hollenden when one of the hotel service employes approched a union official and asked for permission to address the delegates, without mentioning what he wanted to say. Sat 3-9-46

When he spoke he said that the hotel workers had been greatly impressed by the thoroughly democratic conduct of the meeting, seeing the Negro and white delegates planning to build their union together, sitting, eating, and working together. Then, he presented $100 to the union, a collection taken among the all-Negro hotel staff, to further the things UOPWA is fighting for. 3-9-46

Raps Failure to Editorialize On Perry UE Fight for Negroes

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

1-15 16 Nassau, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The Daily Worker of Dec. 20 carried a story by Dorothy Loeb which hailed the fact that Local 450 of UE (the Sperry Local) had unanimously decided to fight for revision of their own seniority rules to save the jobs of fellow Negro unionists. The membership enthusiastically agreed that if necessary white workers would step aside in order to guarantee the jobs of their Negro brothers.

This is a precedent shattering move of deepest significance. There somehow was no doubt in my mind that an editorial analyzing the meaning of this move and greeting it would soon be forthcoming. But no such editorial has appeared to date.

To my mind this step taken by the Sperry workers is the key to winning the Negro people as the indispensable ally of the working class. It records the beginning of a new stage in the political development of the American working class. At last they are beginning to see that full employment is not possible without fair employment, that, as Marx said, "workers in white skins cannot be free unless their black brothers are also free." This is the point of unity of the working class with the Negro people.

Negro people have often been misled by vacillating, stupid, petty-bourgeois leadership and have been used by reactionary leadership for strikebreaking, anti-working class purposes. They must be oriented toward the working class as the key to their deliverance from discrimination, persecution and segregation.

This, then, is the meaning of the move on the part of the Sperry workers. It is a move which must be brought to everyone's ears, a move which must be built up until it assumes the proportions of the Scottsboro case, a democratic precedent-setting move which must grow and grow until it becomes the property of the entire labor movement. 1-15-46

It seems to me that for an American Marxist newspaper not to editorialize on such a significant step is an inexcusable error and, if I may suggest so, it betrays a lack of understanding of the Negro question. I strongly urge that this error be immediately corrected. VETERAN.

NO COLOR DISCRIMINATION

New York Times, N.Y.

Machinists District 15 Locals Absolved of the Charges

Mon 4-1-46

Locals of District 15 of the International Association of Machinists, which embraces the New York City area, have been absolved of charges of color discrimination following an investigation by the New York State Commission Against Discrimination, it was announced yesterday.

The commission declared that between 150 and 200 Negroes were members of locals in the district, and that atleast two Negroes were representatives of the district council. It was pointed out that refusal to admit Negroes to full membership would be in violation of the Ives-Quinn bill against racial or religious bias.

The commission's report also disclosed that the organization's grand lodge ritual "provided for white membership only," a stricture ignored by many locals.

In the Nation

N.Y. N.Y.

Again the "Union Armies" Move Into Dixie

New York Times

By ARTHUR KROCK

The announcement by the American Federation of Labor that its organizers also will soon launch an effort to unionize Southern workers more completely than they are at present adds another element to the prospect.

When the Congress of Industrial Organizations made a previous announcement to the same effect it was clear that social as well as economic and political issues would arise in the South. But conflicts between the two wings of labor over jurisdiction were not implicit. Now these are regarded as inevitable.

Southern employers, especially those in the war industries, may feel that they have had a proportionate share of strikes and jurisdictional quarrels. Reliable statistics are lacking. But the impression has prevailed in some quarters that most of these were centered in other sections of the nation. Whether that impression is right or wrong, it will soon relate to an equation of the past.

The drive of the AFL is to start more dramatically than that of the rival branch of organized labor. The opening is to be at Asheville, N. C., near the middle of May, and the regular organizers of the AFL in twelve Southern States will lay plans to enroll workers in textiles, chemicals, oil, rayon and the public services. 4-26-46

But the high dramatic touch is expected to be supplied by John L. Lewis. If his coal strike has been settled, his presence is counted on. And if he does at once identify himself as the spearhead of a movement to split the CIO in the South, all advance prophecies will be discredited. Friday

The CIO's immediate plan is less picturesque. It will open offices at Birmingham next week and start on an effort to organize Southern workers, particularly at first those in cotton textiles. But the Political Action Committee of the CIO has a program for a parallel drive. And this will set off dynamic social and political factors.

The South and the CIO

In recent years the AFL has broadened its admission policies with respect to Negro workers. It splits them up among its national unions when they are craftsmen. Others it covers into its so-called "Federal" unions, which are not national organizations and are fully controlled by the AFL high com-

"union armies" enter Dixie, can. If the AFL would agree to organize
elop without check (since there is one side of the street in the South and
hing in law to restrain them or their the CIO the other, the impending
pact on the general population). drives would not offer this violent pros-
s is sure to bring about jurisdic- pect. But such an agreement is un-
al and other clashes, including likely, and the invitation to John L.
kes, and the dockets of the National Lewis to be the chief figure at Ashe-
or Relations Board and other Fed- ville tends to make it less so, whether
l agencies will reflect what is hap- he appears or not. An AFL preparing
to make such a compact would hardly
ing.

ask Mr. Lewis to conduct the overtures.

The CIO has announced that it intends to raise $1,000,000 for the drive in the South. The other branch of organized labor is not so free with money, but, as the activity grows, essential funds will be made available. Large amounts have already been spent in the South for organizing by both groups, but this twin effort is more concentrated. The CIO has had better returns for its money, having been much more successful in the textile industry than its competitor. So the AFL will do what is needful to balance the situation if it can and get the greater share of recruits.

New York, N

Into Local Politics

The drives, of course, will surely enter local politics, where the CIO is the more active and has a party line with respect to individual officeholders and public issues. It has what approaches a political leader, Secretary Wallace, whose aspiration to be renominated for Vice President was vigorously opposed by the dominant Southern Democratic leaders. 4-26-46

These, in combination with the big city bosses, were able to defeat Mr. Wallace in the 1944 national convention. The CIO also has led in social and political programs, including abolition of the poll-tax and a Federal Fair Employment Practices Commission, which are unpopular with most of the Southern political leaders. The AFL, on the other hand, while endorsing some of these public proposals, has no national political leader and its central organization takes no position on candidates for office. This is left to State and local committees.

Mix this combination of violent social, political and economic disputes, and add the conflict over jurisdiction between rival groups of unions, and the product promises to be an explosion that will shake the South.

Ralph McGill Says Most Of South 'Not Hostile'

ASHEVILLE, N. C., May 13—(AP)—Editor Ralph McGill, of The Atlanta Constitution, told a labor conference here that "the great majority of the Southern people are not hostile to organized labor."

In an address Sunday before the Southern Labor Conference of the American Federation of Labor, the prominent Georgia editor declared:

"I believe the average Southerner will cheer you on if you will smash the sweat shop conditions of exploitation wherever you find them." Mon 5-13-46

He also asserted that the South expects organized labor to eliminate the wage differential between this area and the North and that thoughtful Southerners look to organized labor to bring more industry and more jobs to the South.

Asking the labor leaders to consider certain responsibilities, McGill said:

"Let me plead with you not to think in narrow terms, not to plan in a restricted manner, not to believe for a moment that you can plan for yourself and for organized labor or the American Federation of Labor.

"Just as I do not believe we can survive in an isolated nation, so I do not believe our society can survive if we break it up into special interests and plan and think only for them."

McGill added that the public expects organized labor "to find some machinery for obtaining just contracts without going to the extreme of stopping utility service to the people generally."

BIG UNIONS LOOKS SOUTH

Montgomery Advertiser

In this era of industrialization, the Southern worker has become far more interesting to the big unions than he ever was during the hoss-and-buggy days preceding the war. Both CIO and A F of L organizers have begun the invasion of territory previously regarded by the unionists as hardly worth the effort involved in shaking it loose from its open-shop traditions. According to Louis Stark, labor expert of the New York Times, the twin drives of the great unions may well prove to be "historic landmarks in the long struggle for unionization of workers below the Mason and Dixon Line" in a hitherto aloof and virtually impenetrable South.

In the coming of intensified industrialization to the South, the unions have been quick to realize their first big chance; and since the war, they have been making amazing progress in all industries except that of cotton textiles, in which hardly a third of the workers have been enrolled as union members. Next to the textile industry, Mr. Stark lists lumber, oil, chemicals, tobacco, food processing, and general utilities and services as the most fertile fields for the unions. At present CIO holds the edge on A F of L in its unionization of cotton mill workers. CIO has already selected Birmingham as headquarters for its Southern drive. Although beaten to the punch, A F of L plans to open its campaign in Ashville, N. C., early in May.

Both unions admit uncertainty as to how to proceed on the Negro question. Another problem that specifically affects the success of CIO's drive for new membership is whether to play up its Political Action Committee, an organization whose activities were highly objectionable to many influential Southerners during the last national election. Alabama.

The way Starke sees it, William Green and Philip Murray have started a fight to determine which union will enroll the lion's share of the South's workers. All that is needed to assure a rough-house party would be the presence of John L. Lewis among the invading union forces. One thing is certain: there will be unrest here in the South as a result of union appeals to unattached workers. 5-1-46

For the most part the South's experience with Unions has been restricted to those among miners and steel workers, railroad employes, and members of the building trades. These stabilized groups for the most part carry on their business with a minimum of disturbance and are generally accepted.

The South will await the tactics of the unions in the coming campaign with some concern. It is to be hoped that the inevitable impact of organizers against employers will be accompanied by a strict observance of legal restraints. Violence on either side will be damaging to the best interests of our region.

A.F.L. Vs. C.I.O. In the South

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

IF ADVANCE speeches and organization tempers are any gauge, the forthcoming race for organizing Southern labor promises to be a competitive undertaking new in American union history. The American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization often have fought tooth and toenail for control of unions in specific industries. But this time each has launched an avowed all-out organizational campaign in a large area which remains the last no-man's land of industrial unions.

There have been unions in the South for many years. The railway brotherhoods, of course, were established in 1883. The Typographical Union has been established so long it is a settled institution. In recent years a number of small organizations have come into being. But until a few years ago Southern textiles, the giant among the South's then relatively few industries, fought every organization attempt with writs and injunctions and tear gas and riot squads. Jues 5-14-46

Since then, two things have happened. The nation has put enough labor legislation on the statute books to preclude further use of courts and peace officers to beat organization. And enough industries have moved to the South to make it significant as a field for industrial unionization.

So VAN BITTNER, director of the C.I.O. drive for the South, shouted a week ago in Atlanta: "Nothing can stop us!"

And in Asheville last week, WILLIAM GREEN, president of the A.F.L., asserted: "Nothing can stop us."

Mr. GREEN, raising the cry of "Communist" against his C.I.O. rivals, declared the only way employers in the South can escape the clutches of these "Communists" is by welcoming A.F.L. It was oddly reminiscent of the argument those same employers used to give why their employes ought to join their company unions instead of Mr. GREEN's own A.F.L. Anyway, it will be a fight to watch. It is indicative that the South is growing up industrially, and that the Southern worker is to have opportunity to join the labor movement in force.

Let's Get Together

Sat 5-4-46

On the heels of the announcement of the Congress of Industrial Organization of a $1,000,000 drive to organize the non-union workers, black and white, of the Southern States, comes another announcement from the American Federation of Labor of a similar drive. Gettysburg Courier Pa.

At the same time the Communists and the unions they control have announced their intention of "helping" with the drive, while the Political Action Committee simultaneously declares it is out to launch a drive on the political front against certain Southern Congressmen.

This presages a great deal of political and economic activity to revolutionize conditions in the Southern regions, and the unfortunate thing about it is that many of these organizational groups seem to be at odds.

The AFL and the CIO are openly at war with each other to win the membership of this great mass of unorganized workers, with the former planning to carry out its traditional policy of setting up "captive" jim crow unions and the latter proceeding to organize all workers, regardless of color, in vertical unions.

The Communists and the Political Action Committee are planning to inject politics into the drive against the Southern oligarchy while at the same time fighting the AFL.

It is very certain that the embattled Southern reactionaries will lose no time in taking advantage of these rivalries and divisions, and we greatly fear that as the battle grows more intense, the Negroes may find more violent prejudice stirred up against them than presently exists.

It seems to us that on drive at a time is sufficient, and that drive should be directed toward getting all the Southern workers organized for purposes of economic advancement.

To this end the AFL and the CIO, if possible, should pool their interests and resources in one big campaign and not confuse the issue with rival drives, while political considerations should be subordinated until the economic drive is successfully completed.

If Left-Wing political groups want to help improve the sort of representation the South has been sending to Washington, we suggest that they give wholehearted support simply to the effort now being made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and associated groups to win the ballot for everybody and thus break down the undemocratic one-party system.

Good generals do not divide their forces, and the sooner organized labor understands this, the faster progress it will make in the South where, regardless of what we may think of them, the politicians are cunning and resourceful.

Sat 5-4-46

Mrs. FDR Lauds Labor Committee

NEW YORK — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and CIO President Philip Murray were among the nation's liberals who this week commended the Negro Labor Committee and its chairman, Frank R. Crosswaith, for their work in unifying organized labor and the Negro masses. 5-4-46

Others who sent congratulatory messages to the committee on its tenth anniversary are Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach, AFL President William Green, Governor Thomas E. Dewey and Mayor William O'Dwyer of this city.

The massages praised the committee for fostering labor solidarity in race relations, and stressed the work still ahead in teaching the advantages of trade-unionism to Negro workers.

Fair Enough

Times-Dispatch

NEW YORK—Just as Mussolini and Hitler snarled at their own image in their detestation of Communists and Josef Stalin, so today in our own country we find many bewildered or deliberately dishonest propagandists bewailing the election of Gene Talmadge as Governor of Georgia, with the support of the Ku Klux Klan. This actually is a victory for their own principles, as I can easily demonstrate. Sat. 7-27-46

Let us take the matter of racial discrimination which is decried most of all because it denies to Negroes opportunities for employment and advancement. Is it any more painful or unjust to a Negro that he be blacklisted because he is a Negro than to a white man to be kept out of work because he refuses to join a union? Let us say that the Negro goes hungry and lives in squalor and is put upon and shunned. But this other person also goes hungry, lives in mean quarters, is persecuted by organized action, attacked by thugs and marked as an outcast. Richmond

I can cite many cases of young girls whose neighbors received circulars stuffed in their letter boxes viciously abusing these girls as enemies of their fellow-workers, inciting the neighbors to insult, ostracize and hate them merely because they have declined to join. Virginia

IT IS reported from Atlanta that Talmadge intends to appoint an official of the Ku Klux Klan to command the State Bureau of Investigation. Presumably that means that this bureau will harass Talmadge's opponents and cover up offenses by his adherents.

That would be bad.

But the late President Roosevelt appointed two Communists to high positions in the Labor Relations Board and they in turn manned the organization, with few exceptions, with other Communists and fellow-travelers who were sworn to the proposition that the employer always was a guilty rascal.

Mr. Roosevelt also appointed a member of the Ku Klux Klan to the Supreme Court and then appointed Frank Murphy, because, as Governor of Michigan, he had shown that he could be relied on to warp the law, or refuse to enforce it, in favor of Roosevelt's political auxiliary, the CIO.

We all know what the Ku Klux Klan is, but men of honest mind and objective judgment will note that the union movement has imitated the Klan in its most frightening characteristics.

Did the Klan hold secret meetings and invade politics to elect and appoint to influential office men who would carry out its policies?

Didn't the CIO? Sat. 7-27-46

Is the Klan oath-bound and does it hold secrets?

Most unions require an oath, placing the welfare of the union above the Constitution and welfare of the United States, and provide expulsion and poverty as the penalty for betrayal of union secrets.

Isn't that rule by fear?

DOES the Klan organize boycotts against Negroes, Catholics and Jews?

If so, that is common practice among unions. The only difference is a matter of trivial detail. The Klan boycotts for racial and religious reasons. Union boycotts are imposed for other purposes, many of them just as bad, one being the shakedown, or extortion.

The Klan is a private organization, preaching hatred. Richmond

All unions are private organizations, and the citizen who has never read their literature has missed some of the most vicious lessons in bigotry and hatred ever set down on paper.

The Klan is within its legal right in supporting any candidate or issue. It has the same legal right to arouse hatred that was freely exercised by the CIO in hundreds of bloody riots from New York to San Diego. Virginia

But an important difference is that the Klan was instantly suspected and constantly opposed by many brave men, particularly Southern editors, until it collapsed. It did threaten, for a time, to become a great popular movement and discredit law and government, but it never quite made the grade. The union movement, on the other hand, has had the support of the national government in a similar outrageous career and has been legalized and its force has far exceeded that of the Klan at its height.

Any person who has been complacent toward all this has forfeited his right to denounce the Klan and its relation to Talmadge. He likes that kind of thing. He cannot come into court with clean hands. I happen to be one who can.

Leader of Rail Porters' Brotherhood Accuses Trainmen Unions of Blocking Negro Workers

The Times New York, N.Y. Wed.

By GEORGE STREATOR

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES 10-23-46

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 22—A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters of the American Federation of Labor and chairman of a provisional committee to organize Negro locomotive firemen, said at a meeting of Negro firemen held here that the brotherhoods of operating trainmen "have worked and fought with violence, law and contracts" to make the railroads "a lily-white industry."

He accused the "powerful railroad unions" of planning with certain operators to undermine the status of Negro workers "in an industry which in its early stages depended largely upon Negro workers." He said that the South which President Franklin D. Roosevelt described as "the number one economic problem" will be "worse off with Negroes driven from jobs they now possess."

Mr. Randolph hailed the decision handed down by Judge Sterling Hutcheson of the United States Court for the Eastern District of Virginia last week, which granted Tom Tunstall, Uegro fireman, "the relief" he sought against the actions of the Norfolk-Southern Railroad Company and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

"I consider this decision timely, vital and constructive legal victory of the Negro railroad worker in his long and difficult fight to keep open the door of employment in the railroad industry."

John Gilbert and Marcus O'Neal of Lakeland, Fla., brakemen for the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company said that Negro brakemen "are not now under pressure."

A suit has been filed in Federal courts on behalf of eleven Negro railroad firemen against "all corporation, all individually and as members of the Southeastern Carriers' Conference Committee" comprising twenty transportation groups, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineermen, and the National Mediation Board, "an agency of the United States under the Railway Labor Act," it was announced.

It was charged that the defendant Brotherhood "by the provisions of its constitution and by common practice restricts its membership to white locomotive firemen and enginemen and excludes Negro firemen from membership solely by reason of the racial identity of the latter."

A letter was produced bearing the signature of Thad S. Lee, then general chairman of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineermen and dated Oce. 11, 1942, which revealed an alleged "gentleman's agreement" initiated with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company by R. L. (Bob) Glenn, former general chairman of the Brotherhood and, later, an employe of the War Manpower Commission, the War Production Board and afterwards, the Department of Labor.

Mr. Glenn wrote the Brotherhood on ov. 25, 1943, in part:

"During the Fall of 1925 some non-promotable firemen were hired on the Montgomery district and the Jacksonville district. Practically all these men were eliminated from the seniority roster and I am sure by checking the roster since 1925 you will find that this understanding has been compiled with on the system." Wed. 10-23-46

Moves to enforce the "gentleman's agreement" to drive Negroes from the firemen's cabs led to the taking of a strike vote with the approval of R. J. Tillery, then vice president of the B. of L. F. and E. in 1942. The ballot read in part:

"I have carefully read the attached statement with reference to the hiring of non-promotable firemen, and hereby cast my vote (for or against) a strike if settlement satisfactory to the Grand Lodge officer and chairman cannot be obtained." It was "apparently obtained," Mr. Milton P. Webster of the provisional committee said.

"A man's promotions on the railroads are normally in direct proportion to his ability to produce," asserted the diminutive labor leader who has been in the railroad service 11 years.

The Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen is now conducting an all-out membership drive, he disclosed, and aims to have all employees of railroads in its fold. All are eligible for membership.

"There are too many railroad employees of our group who are not members of the association," Mr. Little observed. Sat. 10-19-46

S. H. Clark, white, of Roanoke, Va., is first grand president of the association.

More Suits Ahead, Official Declares

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By RUFUS WELLS JR.

NORFOLK, Va. — "We have other cases prepared and ready to be filed; this is what we've been waiting for."

This pronouncement was made last week by John F. Little Jr., first vice-grand president of the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen, when interviewed by the AFRO shortly after the U.S. District Court's momentous decision in the Tunstall Case.

The association supported Tunstall in his action against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers. Sat. 10-19-46

Fight Just Begun

"The fight is not yet over," Mr. Little emphasized. "Our ultimate aim is to have fair representation or be accepted as members in all brotherhoods of our occupation. Over a period of time we feel that this will be accomplished."

Lounging in a comfortable chair in his modest Dungee St. home, Mr. Little said the railroads offer employment security with comparatively high wages and many chances for advancement. Baltimore Md.

He wondered why more [illegible] **colored men didn't seek this type of work, in preference to lower paying, less secure white-collar jobs.** Afro-American

More Members Sought

No Color Line. In A. F. L. Drive, Green Asserts

Regional Conference Charleston, S.C. 6-30-46

C. I. O. is Assailed as 'Communistic'—Britton Reelected by Federation

Sunday

The South Carolina State Federation of Labor yesterday closed what delegates described as one of the most harmonious sessions ever held by the organization. The federation reelected Earle R. Britton, of Columbia, as its president.

Earlier, the delegates had heard William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, attack the C.I.O. as "communistic", and describe the organizational campaign as based on the fact that it will offer "the benefits of unionism to all workers, regardless of race, creed or color". Sunday

The labor leader told his listeners to "let us make ourselves clear on this point. The decent people of the South do not hate the negro, nor do they wish to deny him opportunity for economic advancement. Race hatred has no place in America, nor in the trade union movement. The secret forces which seek to foment race hatred and prejudices are the same as those which stir up antagonism against the labor unions. The pioneers in our labor movement fought and overcame enemies who skulked behind masks and white sheets and who sought to terrorize union organizers by fiery crosses and threats of lynching . . . The American Federation of Labor is going to continue fighting them and their hateful philosophies until they are eradicated". 6-30-46

Picketed White House

He reminded his listeners that the "C.I.O. Communists even dared picket the White House and condemn America for imperialism". He charged that a C.I.O. delegation was even now in Moscow conferring with Communist leaders.

In contrast, he said that the executive council of the A.F. of L. "pledged that the organizing campaign of the American Federation of Labor will be carried on with an undeviating loyalty to the United States of America".

The fireworks expected when a resolution introduced by T. L. Brookshire's resolution was brought to the floor for discussion without action by the resolutions committee.

Other officers named were Paul T. Ross, of Spartanburg, first vice president; C. O. Gamble, of Columbia, second vice president; John J. Minehan, of Charleston, third vice president; J. Belton Warren, of Greenville, fourth vice president; Walter E. Jenkins, of Beaufort, fifth vice president; James Darnell, of Orangeburg, sixth vice president; Charles R. Norris, seventh vice president; and Joseph M. Hunt, of Columbia, secretary-treasurer for his 21st year.

Brookshire, of Greenville, criticizing the action of an A. F. of L. committee meeting in Atlanta calling for "strictly Googe, director of personalities were restored when George L. monious throughout. In addition to the reelection of president; J. Belton Warren, of campaign and Southern ve of the A. F. of L. Mr. Britton, who defeated Clyd Laurens, fourth vice president; at the resolution by the R. Boland, of Columbia, by a vo Walter E. Jenkins, of Beaufort, fifth committee had been mis- of 136 to 33, Fred E. Hatchell w vice president; James Darnell, of and explained its con- reelected without opposition Orangeburg, sixth vice president; Brookshire's resolution serve the federation as its secr Charles R. Norris, seventh vice drawn from the floor. tary-treasurer for his 21st year. president; and Joseph M. Hunt, of

Hatchell Again Elected 6-30-46

Greenville, eighth vice president.

John J. Irwin, of Charleston, was named chairman of the legislative committee, with J. W. Harrison, of Spartanburg, as vice chairman, and the following members: W. M. Hall, of Winnsboro; John Nates, of Columbia; and James Coles, of Charleston. Roy McKinney was named as the delegate to the coming A. F. of L. convention. Greenville was chosen as the 1947 convention city.

Changes in By-Laws

Several changes in the by-laws were recommend by the by-laws committee, which recommended the following, all of which were adopted:

That the secretary-treasurer be given extra hired help for a period of two weeks to put resolutions, etc., in proper form for the convention;

That the secretary-treasurer be given a salary increase of $25 per month;

That resolutions be turned in to the secretary-treasurer 20 days prior to convening of future conventions;

That an additional vice president be elected, bringing the total to eight;

That the conventions convene on the last Thursday of each June at 1 o'clock and run through Saturday; and

That the secretary-treasurer be instructed to have reprints made of the constitution and rules to bring them up to date.

Talk on Atom Bomb

During the afternoon session, the delegates heard a talk by Dr. Edward P. Tompkins, one of the group of scientists who worked on the atomic bomb at Oak Ridge, Tenn. Dr. Tompkins represented the Atomic Scientists association, at Oak Ridge.

While Dr. Tompkins warned his listeners that the United States was in possession of a weapon capable of destroying civilization, he expressed the belief that it was "most improbable" that the world would be "blown up".

All of our cities would be destroyed should the weapon be used against us with approximately 25 per cent of our population surviving he explained, and the country would be thrown into a state of anarchy with the rule of "survival of the fittest".

"The United States can keep no monopoly on the bomb, he said, "for the only secret about it was discovered in Germany in 1939 and was shared with the world. The rest was only the working out of the engineering details."

Dr. Tompkins said that there was no defense against the atomic bomb. They can be constructed and be placed in hundreds of planes. If only one plane gets through the defense a city can be destroyed and no aerial defense has ever been perfect, he said, although the army is now working on such a defense.

To illustrate the ease with which such bombs can be smuggled into or out of a country, he said that the charge which destroyed Nagasaki was "less than the size of a baseball".

"We can either drift into an atomic war or we can use it to raise the standard of living of workers all over the world," he said.

He predicted that military control over the bomb would lead only to an atomic war while civilian control, by a commission, could keep the use of atomic energy for civilian use. He urged the delegates to write their representatives in the house and senate urging the civilian commission form of control.

Such a form, he said, would be the first step toward a world control for human benefit rather than for human destruction.

The Shrewd Strategy Is Unity

Daily Worker
By Claudia Jones New York

Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, recently answered an article of mine (The Worker, June 16) in which I took issue with his call for a "shrewd racial strategy."

N.Y.

Mr. Granger held that such a policy was the one which the Negro people should follow in connection with the anti-labor legislation proposals of President Truman and his breaking of the railway strike.

I argued that such a policy was shortsighted, negated Negro-white unity, and in reality, urged the Negro people to "go it alone."

It was surprising that Lester Granger, who is generally considered a part of the Negro-Labor-Democratic coalition, could advocate such a policy.

MUCH IN COMMON

It appears that substantial agreement exists between Granger's and our position that the rail unions' discrimination against Negro workers must be ended.

We both agree that such undemocratic practices are disastrous to labor, to Negro-white unity and to the nation as a whole. No difference of emphasis exists. Both in Mr. Granger's original **Amsterdam News** article and in The Worker article, this point was made.

Ned 7-3-46

The question is: **How can such a fight be successful?**

Clearly only if the Negro people conduct this fight **within**—and not apart from—the alliance of labor and the Negro people.

Any Negro worker will confirm the truth of this statement from his experience in the trade union movement.

WE FIGHT JIMCROW

To put it another way: We hold no brief for any trade unionist who fails to fight Jimcrow in his own union.

In fact, Communists conduct a fight with unionists who fail to do so. This is based on our entire history of struggle for equal status for the Negro worker in the trade union movement and in all spheres of life.

This is so because, as befits our vanguard role, it is rooted in our **Marxist - Leninist understanding that white workers cannot be free from exploitation where Negro** workers are penalized and discriminated against because of the color of their skin.

There remain, however, some differences between our position and that of Mr. Granger.

For example, Granger asks:

"Why should Negroes in an hour of crisis which affects the interests of the whole country refrain from putting the finger squarely on the two principal figures in that crisis who have been guilty personally of trying to drive every Negro worker out of the field of railway employment?"

CRISIS

It is indeed an hour of crisis, a crisis which affects both the Negro people and the labor movement. Anti-labor measures affect the Negro people, just as anti-Negro measures and practices affect labor.

What are those measures? They include: a reign of lynch-police terror, against Negro veterans and the Negro people in all spheres and repression of their economic, political and social wartime gains. This drive is concurrent with a wholesale assault against the living standards of the American people as a whole.

They include also the effort to deprive labor of its right to bargain collectively, to strike for better living conditions.

Hence, **both the labor movement and the Negro people, democracy's two most reliable forces, are under fierce attack.**

Who backs them? Truman, Byrnes, Vandenberg, the Bilbos and Rankins.

LOSING STRATEGY

No "finger can be squarely put" in this moment of crisis without singling out these forces, whose aim is to follow a "shrewd strategy" that would **divide Negro from white** and thus more easily achieve their aims.

Mr. Granger also expresses the idea that the Negro-labor "alignment" is a transient, temporary phenomenon. To so do, is to fail to recognize that the heart and core of the democratic forces which alone can curb the trusts, the Ku Klux polltax crew, is labor allied with the Negro people and other democratic forces.

Finally, Mr. Granger warns that **"The Negro worker of today is living in an economic jungle full of sinister enemies lurking in the underbrush opposed to all the Negro holds dear."**

Ned 7-3-46

There can be no disagreement that such "sinister enemies" exist. But our job as Communists and anti-fascists is to define who they are, to expose them, and thus help the Negro and his allies to curb and finally crush them.

If this is seen, there can be no possible resort to a "shrewd racial strategy" as opposed to Negro-white unity—and unity among the Negro people—to achieve such a goal.

Says Negroes Can Be Organized

Ned 8-14-46

In the few months I have worked toward organizing the hotel and restaurant employees into a union for their common good, I have encountered many would-be advisers who say, "Man, you can't organize the Negroes of Louisville." What these individuals fail to understand is that the Negroes of Louisville are no different from the Negroes in the East or West, or anywhere else. Secondly, these people should realize that their words are but self-criticism when they take into consideration the fact that they too are Negroes and do not belong to any union.

Courier-Journal Louisville

While it is true that Negroes have joined unions in large numbers in other sections of the country, it is just as true that these unions are equipped with the necessary apparatus for propaganda and education, two essentials in the organization of both Negro and white workers. The lapse of the O.P.A. sending the living costs skyward, while wages remain at an ebb, is but one of the reasons why the Louisville Negro must organize. Let me advise my advisers on the organization of the Louisville Negro, or Negroes anywhere. When you yourself realize the importance of organization, and join a union, then do everything to encourage your fellow worker to do likewise, gone will be the day when you, or anyone else, can say, "The Negro of Louisville won't organize."

JULIUS RODRIQUEZ.
Louisville.

Hotel and Club Employes Local 6.

— UNION LOOKOUT —

Daily Worker New York, Ny

- **Hotel Union Elects Negroes**

wash 2-27-46

- **Labor Weekly for Chicago**

By Dorothy Loeb

THREE Negroes have been elected to leading posts in Hotel and Club Employes Local 6. Charles A. Collins, former business agent, is now vice-president. Daisy George has been reelected a business agent, and Augustus Kerry, formerly employed at the Hotel Alamac, which he helped organize, was elected a business agent, too. Local 6, with 20,000 members, is the largest local in the Hotel and Restaurant Employes International. wash 2-27-46

A Philadelphia Longshore Story

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Feb 7-346

POLISH AND NEGRO DOCKERS HAVE 'CARDS' BUT NO RIGHTS

Editor, Daily Worker:

During the past several months I have read articles and stories in your paper about the longshoremen in New York. I would like to tell you something about the longshoremen in the port of Philadelphia.

There are about 5,000 longshoremen now working on the Philadelphia waterfront. Fifteen hundred longshoremen are what ILA officials call regular book members. The majority of these longshoremen are Polish and Negro workers. During the war the city of Philadelphia became a major center for war industry. This made it necessary for many more people to enter the longshore industry. The result has been that some 3,000 Philadelphians, the majority of whom are Negroes, came down to work on the docks to help load and unload war materials.

These longshoremen were taken into the ILA as "card members." They were made to pay the regular monthly dues but were deprived of any say in the union.

There is still plenty of work on the Philadelphia waterfront today to give every longshoreman an opportunity to make a living but the employers, with the help of some ILA officials, have started discriminating against the card members.

During the war all longshoremen were able to work general cargo. There was no discrimination. Now general cargo is given to the book members. Card members are made to work bulk cargo (cement, grain, iron ore and other dirty work).

Last week 3,000 Philadelphia longshoremen who have ben designated as "card members" by officials of ILA got together and demanded that we be admitted into the union as regular members. The officials said "No." We then decided to prove to the shipowners and the union officials that the Philadelphia waterfront could not be worked without these men.

The 3,000 card members took a holiday for one week. The Philadelphia waterfront was tied up. Even the regular book members were friendly and sympathetic with their brother longshoremen who are unjustly being kept out of the union.

Feb 7-3-46

This was a fine demonstration of strength and served notice upon the ILA officials that we mean to have one strong ILA in the port of Philadelphia instead of dividing the longshoremen into first class and second class citizens.

We are now back at work but the fight is just beginning. Philadelphia longshoremen are determined to organize the ILA.

A LONGSHOREMAN.

Water in the Bilge

There were rumblings of mutiny below decks, and up on the bridge the skipper heard them. Joe Curran, strapping (6 ft. 2) president of the salty, swashbuckling National Maritime Union, wanted to keelhaul a few of the hands who had first boosted him up from the fo'c'sle.

Until he took N.M.U.'s helm nine years ago, tattooed Joe Curran was an ordinary seaman with a more-than-ordinarily militant resentment of slim pay, mealy food and crummy quarters aboard U.S. ships. When disgruntled East Coast sailors cast off from the corrupt and ineffective A. F. of L. International Seamen's Union and went C.I.O., they made big Joe Curran top seadog in their aggressive new union.

N.M.U. rank & filers had long had a noticeable list to port: some belonged to dockside cells of the Communist Party. No one lifted an eyebrow when a bunch of Commies marched up the gangplank with big Joe, and took officers' quarters.

Curran held the wheel of the new N.M.U., but the Communists set the course. Far from beefing about it, Joe made noises like a Commie himself. The union prospered, took in 90,000 members. Joe Curran became a national figure who boasted that his union was indifferent to the race, color or political creed of its members.

'Ware Shoals. But all the while N.M.U.'s happy ship was taking water. Last month, at a secret union meeting in New York, Joe Curran hinted darkly that a Communist conspiracy was trying to strike him down.

What made Joe mad was "a refusal on the part of certain officers to carry out directives or recognize the authority of the president." The "certain officers" named by Curran were N.M.U. vice presidents Frederick Myers and Howard McKenzie and the Negro secretary, Ferdinand Smith. All of them were Marxists.

Curran charged that handsome "Blackie" Myers and pals were building a political machine, slandering other N.M.U. officers (including Curran), refusing to report their activities and making individual decisions that did not fit with union policy. He suggested that all three get the hell out of office. N.M.U. members clapped loudly, but took no action beyond urging everybody to save their steam for the shipowners.

Last week Myers, who had shared office with Curran for nine years, announced that he would not run again in next month's N.M.U. elections. Owing to an oversight, said Blackie sleekly, his dues had been paid late and he feared that "this technicality could be used . . . to disrupt and harm the union." But Curran, McKenzie and Smith were still on the ticket.

Both big Joe Curran and his disaffected shipmates would probably be re-elected. The Communists weren't after the skipper's stripes; they just wanted to wring some of the salt from his socks. Curran would keep the crew if they would show a little more respect for the Old Man. But until the beefs were squared away, N.M.U. would be a loose ship.

Barber Learns, to His Sorrow, It Ain't Safe to Jimcrow NMU'ers

A Brooklyn barber has learned that race discrimination is costly, especially when practiced against a Negro member of the National Maritime Union.

The seaman, Linwood Carrington, of 356 Hancock St., Brooklyn, this week collected $110 from the owner of a Nostrand Ave. barber shop, who refused to give him a 50-cent shave last month.

Carrington, who had sailed American merchant ships into dangerous war zones throughout the war, visited his neighborhood barber shop April 16. When the barber refused to accommodate him, Carrington called in a policeman who informed the barber he was required under New York State law to give the shave. The barber still refused.

The seaman brought the matter to the attention of the NMU, whose attorney, William L. Standard, obtained a magistrate's summons against the barber for a misdemeanor and also sued him in the Municipal Court, charging violation of the Civil Rights Law.

Jim Crow Blocks Sailor's Leave In Saudi Arabia

RAS TANURA, Saudi Arabia—That long-awaited shore leave for National Maritime Union sailors developed into just another dream when they ended a 10,000-mile voyage in Ras Tanura, Saudi-Arabia, recently.

The Ras Tanura port cancelled the shore leave of the mixed crew and according to the NMU, the U.S. State Department said nothing could be done about it.

The NMU sailors have a long and eventful record in fighting American financial interests however, and were not surprised to discover that Ras Tanura port, the site of huge Arabian-American oil developments, is controlled by Standard Oil of California and Texas Oil.

When the SS Henry Wynkoop crew protested to the State Department through the NMU, the department answered that there investigation did not disclose a basis for the charge of "Jim Crow."

Maritime Unions Uniting for Action

The maritime unity conference set for May 6 in San Francisco opens the way for powerful action for higher wages and for maintenance of peace, according to Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary of the CIO National Maritime Union.

Besides the NMU, unions participating in the West Coast meeting will be the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen; the Marine Cooks and Stewards; Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers; American Communications Assn., marine division; and members of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn. and the Inland Boatmen's Union. A recommendation for national strike action will be made to the convention.

Smith, long a leader in his own union, a candidate in elections now under way for re-election as NMU secretary, and an outstanding figure among Negroes throughout the entire labor movement, discusses conference perspectives in **The Pilot**, NMU organ.

Like employers in auto, steel and other industries, waterfront magnates are attempting to crack down on wages and working conditions and destroy workers' living standards, he asserts.

During six months of negotiations, shipowners have refused to budge on NMU basic demands, he reports. He credits this in part to "watchful waiting," explaining:

"They are waiting to determine how united the NMU membership is and how united the maritime unions are."

This attitude prevails generally in the industry, Smith indicates. Speaking directly of the May 6 conference, he says:

"It is imperative at this time for the maritime unions to act cooperatively, so that we can stave off the attacks on our wages and working conditions and move forward to a higher standard of living."

FERDINAND SMITH

SEAMEN AGAINST WAR

On the international scene, American and British tories are threatening a new war, Smith adds.

He warns of propaganda against the Soviet Union and imperialist adventures at the expense of colonial people, and comments:

"The seamen lost too many comrades in this war to sit by idly and allow the conditions for another war to materialize."

Maritime workers recognize the importance of these issues, among the many the conference will consider, and thousands of them have endorsed the San Francisco parley, Smith concludes.

NMU Moves to Expel 16 For Attempt at Jimcrow

Special to the Daily Worker

CHICAGO, May 27.—A National Maritime Union membership meeting here tonight will hear a recommendation for expulsion of 16 members of the crew of the Great Lakes tanker Meteor because they refused to sail with a Negro.

A five-man trial board proposed and replaced by a new crew, in- organ, dealing the expulsion of the 16 for "99 with the Meteor case two weeks cluding the Negro who had been ago, condemned the crew's action years" and a 10-year suspension for assigned originally. as "anti-union" and said that argu- another crew member. It found ments against shipping with two others guilty of racial bias. that, though the NMU constitution same as those Negroes were the

The crew, charged with violating bans discrimination because of race, made by "planted the union's no-discrimination pol- it did not require that a crew sail stooges" when the union was firs icies and its contracts with shop with any one they did not wish to founded. The NMU assigns mer owners, was pulled from the vessel accept. to jobs on a rotary basis, regardless

NEW YORK — Contributions totaling $5,000 were voted this week to four organizations by the National Council of the Maritime Union to help implement the union's vigorous fight against lynch terror in the South.

The four groups and the amounts allocated are: National Negro Congress, $2,500; Southern Negro Youth Congress, $1,000; Southern

Maritime Union Votes $5,000 To Fight Lynch Evil

NMU EXPELS 16 MEN 99 YEARS IN BIAS CASE

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, May 26 — The National Maritime Union, CIO,, in one of the harshest penalties ever laid on Great Lakes sailors, has expelled sixteen members of the crew of the tanker Meteor for "ninety-nine years," because they declined to sail with a Negro as a crew member.

Another crew member got a ten-year suspension, and two others were found guilty. A five-man trial board made the decisions, which involveed an interpretation of the union's "no discrimination" clause. NMU heads will seek membership approval of the expulsions at a meeting tomorrow night at the union hall.

Expulsion is listed by the NMU ocnstitution as a first offense penalty only for fighting with dangerous weapons aboard ship or theft of union property.

While union heads contend the organization's constitution requires that mixed crews sail vessels without separate living quarters, the suspended members had insisted that the constitution, though providing that there be no discrimination because of race insofar as union membership was concerned, did not require that a crew sail with anyone they did not wish to accept.

The incident had its beginning last May 3, when the union sent a Negro aboard the Meteor here. The Negro charges he got the "runaround" about his quarters, and finally was told the crew would not sail with him as a member.

Congress of Human Welfare, $1,000; Crusade to end Lynching, $500.

Asserting that "Continued organization of the American people is the only guarantee that fascist terror in the South will be brought to an end," a report adopted by the council declared.

"Our union was one of the many organizations that spoke out in horror against the recent lynchings in the South. We went further and posted a $5,000 reward for the capture of the lynchers. Despite the demands of the American people, government authorities have not yet apprehended the lynchers. We believe they are known. It is rumored that the FBI as well as the state authorities have their names and it is therefore quite obvious that neither the FBI nor the state has any intention of acting and apprehending the criminals."

Sat. 11-16-46

The Michigan Chronicle

Detroit, Mich.

Says Reds Jeopardize Dixie Drive

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Efforts of the AFL and the CIO to unionize the South are speeding on, but in some sectors, as in Martinsville, Va., are bogging down by efforts of Communists to use the drive as a stepping-stone to power, and to gain a firm grip on Negro workers in the South.

In the Martinsville area, which is rapidly becoming the center of the Nation's furniture industry, the United Furniture Workers of America (CIO), weakened by internal dissension over Communist domination, is seeking to use the Negro furniture workers to defeat the organizing efforts of the Upholsterers' International Union (AFL), according to James Farmer, special organizer.

The CIO Furniture Workers Union split wide open over the issue of Communist domination at its national convention in Detroit last June.

NO DISCRIMINATION IN AFL UNION

The UIU-AFL is one of the AFL unions which tolerates no discrimination because of race, creed or color. The Red leaders of the UFWA-CIO, however, are attempting to capitalize upon the anti-discrimination reputation of the CIO in an effort to maintain and tighten their grip upon Negro workers, and thus to halt the disintegration that has set in over Communist control.

Sat. 12-7-46

In the Martinsville area there are 5,000 furniture workers, a third of which are colored, and new plants are springing up constantly. The two unions are locked in a fight to the finish to serve as the bargaining agent for the workers in the area.

At the town's biggest plant, American Furniture Company, with 550 workers of which one-third are colored, there will be a National Labor Relations Board election on Dec. 10, at which time the workers will choose their bargaining agent, between the UIU-AFL and the UFWA-CIO.

South Denies Civil Rights To CIO, AFL

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-16-46

ATLANTA — Violations of elementary civil liberties are on the increase against AFL and CIO trade unionist in the South to the extent that the CIO last week announced plans to file suit in federal court charging some of the nation's largest textile companies with conspiracy.

Having abandoned hope of protection from southern police who treat trade unions and Negroes with equal neglect, the appeal to federal authorities will charge the companies with a cancerted effort to violate the Wagner Act. Jerome Cooper, Birmingham lawyer, and formerly law clerk for Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, is in charge of the case.

"Eighteen of our CIO organizers and local union leaders have been pushed around or beaten," a spokesman for Van Bittner, CIO "operation Dixie" director said. Continuing, he said:

"Workers have been threatened with expulsion from company-dominated churches in textile towns for joining the CIO. Many have been discharged because of union activities. The garage of one CIO leader in Alabama was dynamited. Deputies in unincorporated company-owned textile towns have ignored civil rights."

Southern resistance to the AFL has been much lighter with only two cases of beatings reported lately. One of the two cases involved Willie Dudley, a Negro worker in the gypsum mine near Macon.

Dudley joined the AFL Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers Union last summer and a few weeks later in July a hooded group beat him when he balked at quitting the union. Official records show that nothing has been done to bring the attackers to justice.

Many of the South's industrial concerns fighting unionism tooth and nail are companies that "ran away" from the North to evade organized labor.

21L 1946

Proposed 'Southern' Labor Union

News and Courier

The organization of a "Southern" labor union, which has been proposed and is said to be in progress in Spartanburg, home town of Olin D. Johnston, Esq., United States senator, and of our Dr. Byrnes, would be of notable interest and influence if it should succeed on a scale extending through half a dozen states. The projectors of this organization would have workers united, but their union would insist upon recognition of Southern social and economic conditions.

The C. I. O., to a less aggressive degree other national unions, deny that separation of white persons and negroes, in any of the industries, is justifiable or excusable, and, manifestly, they must and do demand that colored people be employed in Southern textile mills. (Senator Johnston at one time labored in a cotton mill.) Not, in 1946, are they pressing for the admission of negroes to work alongside of white women and white men in the weaving and spinning rooms, but in time, they must and will insist upon it or else be unfaithful to the policies and principles of Reuther and Dubinsky and of Philip Randolph, chieftain of the Pullman car porters.

Charleston, S.C.

A Southern union composed of white workers could and probably would be in sympathetic alliance with the national unions in the great cities and industrial districts of the North and West. In strikes, boycotts and strivings for higher wages and better living conditions, its power would be exerted in behalf of other unions, and those unions would help it.

7-19-46

Seemingly, the C.I.O. and A. F. of L. would welcome the proposed Southern union's coming into the labor field as a solution of the difficulties arising from the "race question" in the South.

There is an obstacle. It is serious. At bottom of the effort of national unions to organize labor in the South is the motive to prevent Southern negroes coming into their districts in the North and West. They do not welcome working alongside the white people. A saying of two officers of a C.I.O. union, in The News and Courier, that negroes should be admitted to work alongside white people in Greenville cotton mills does not accurately reflect the will of the great majority of Northern and Western wage-earners so far as their factories are concerned.

The C.I.O. and its political affiliates support with all their zeal and force the enactment of the FEPC by the congress. That would leave to employers no option, no discretion, in the employment of laborers. A textile company in Spartanburg or Anderson refusing to employ colored people to labor alongside white women and men would have "the law put to it", and this is the danger confronting the white mill workers who came to the villages to get away from competition and association with negro labor in the cotton and the corn fields.

7-19-46

The astute politicians of the C.I.O. perceive that unless something shall be done to keep the Southern negroes in the South, their migration to the North and West will continue and will be on greater scale than it was in the years following World War I. Movement, travel, is easier, cheaper, more general and popular than it was then, and Southern colored people are better informed than they were in 1920–1930. Those of them discontented that they cannot "get in with the white folks" in the South are not ignorant that in the North and West they could send their children to school with white boys and girls and that the white Liberalites and Uplifters (Rooseveltians) are furiously agitating for democracy and equality. They know that colored teachers occasionally are employed in these mixed schools. They observe too that a negro in Chicago or in New York can be elected to congress and that many negroes hold public offices. In "Greater" New York a colored man can be a Communist and be elected to office. For colored people who do not like the way of life in the South is every incentive to get out of it, and the road is open, wide and paved.

Friday

Among white people in the South is no wish that contented colored people leave it. Were the national unions and their politicians not antagonistic to Southern migration of negroes, were they not trying to force negroes into Southern textile mills and some other industries, they would welcome and assist in the organization of the proposed Southern labor union and accept it as an ally.

The South

Dixie Employers Continue Effort To Block Unions

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 6-29-46

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Southern employers are continuing bold attempts to prevent union organization, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare charged this week.

Southern Patriot, publication of the Conference, pointed out that Militant Truth, race baiting anti-labor paper, is being sent by reactionary Dixie employers to thousands of workers throughout the South.

Militant Truth, it said, in direct violation of the National Labor Relations Act, "usually appears in workers' mailboxes on the eve of the NLRB elections."

Published by one Sherman Patterson, the paper sometimes keeps coming every month for a year or more." One of the inside pages states that subscription price is 35 cents a year. But, says the Patriot, "these workers never pay anything for it. According to an inside article, it comes to them free with 'the compliments of a friend'."

The paper, hits repeatedly at co-operatives and recommends "more, better and bigger poll taxes and restrictions on the right to vote."

Publisher Patterson has admitted that he distributed thousands of booklets through Joseph P. Kamp, whose "Constitutional Educational League" was named in the two Federal Grand Jury indictments as one of the channels through which the propaganda of indicted seditionists flowed.

UNIONS DRIVE IN SOUTH AT SLOW BUT SURE PACE

The New York Times
New York, N.Y.

Workers Drop Traditional Opposition And Most Employers Seem Resigned

Sun. 6-30-46

By HAROLD B. HINTON

NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 29—Like most other developments in the South, the drive of the trade union organizations to enlarge the ranks of organized labor is proceeding slowly but with a certain sureness. Since 1865 changes in the South have come by evolution and not by revolution. The labor organization drives bid fair to follow the pattern.

The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations have had their eyes on this part of the country for some time, and no doubt would have started their current drives earlier had not war conditions intervened. Now, with industrial reconversion well under way (it has been generally easier in the South than elsewhere, as most concerns engaged in war work merely manufactured articles for which their existing equipment made them proficient) and with large-scale industrialization of the whole section inevitable within the next twenty years, the organizers deem it a propitious moment to get started in earnest.

Sun. 6.30.46

The industrial situation in the South presents varied aspects, all of which must be considered by the labor organizers.

Money "in Strong Hands"

Many plants, especially in heavy industry, built extensive additions to take care of war orders, with reasonably careful financing. Their cost has been, or soon will be, amortized so that management faces either boom or bust in sounder shape than prevailed after the first World War. As a small banker in Chattanooga phrased it, nodding approval: "Money's getting into strong hands. Money hates careless people."

Whether he is right remains to be seen, at least in the realm of small manufacturing which is mushrooming. "Everybody with three bricks and a bag of cement is building a factory," said an observer in Atlanta. These new little enterprises are making such building materials as concrete blocks, light steel fabrications and parts, and are, individually, only small employers of labor.

Sun. 6.30.46

A certain mortality is to be expected in this division of southern economic life, because of the inexperience of many of the would-be proprietors and the uncertainties of the competition they will ultimately have to face.

Arguments for Unions

Against this background, the organizers of CIO, AFL and the independents (the International Machinists Union is also active, and the railroad brotherhoods are well installed) are trying to convince Southern industrial workers of the advantages of joining a union. They are working almost virgin territory.

Thus far, the organizers working for the contending factions seem to be following normal approaches to unorganized workers. The CIO officials refer to it as an organization drive, while AFL experts prefer to call it an expansion drive, but the net result is the same.

Sun. 6.30.46

The individual is told that his family's economic welfare will be more secure if he belongs to a union and has the benefit of skilled bargainers working on his behalf. The organizers are not, at the moment, stressing possible wage increases as much as they are the orderly handling of grievances, such as downgrading, dismissal without cause and the other hardships attendant on reconversion.

CIO LEADER

Drawing by Leo

Philip Murray

As between themselves, CIO and AFL missionaries expound the relative merits of craft versus industrial forms of organization, but these arguments obtain little response from most individuals. The CIO workers labor the argument that if a man joins the AFL faction he will have to pay a higher initiation fee plus unforeseen assessments to the international union having jurisdiction over his craft. To counter this argument, AFL internationals have, by and large, waived usual initiation fees for the purposes of the drive, reducing them to the nominal level ($1 to $5) practiced by CIO.

Changing Attitudes

Opposition to unionization is notably less than it has been in the past in the South. There was a time when the labor organizer's quickest enemy was the worker himself, who had been taught to look on him as a Yankee interloper trying to cause mischief in an otherwise peaceable community. Both of the principal contenders in this area have tried to stem this opposition by the employment of indigenous organizers and officials, who had been taken from his job in complete with authentic accents. On the whole, the unions report that there is a considerable measure of effort on the part of employers, even on the part of the older management, and a generation of younger group just beginning to worker (a recent convert) was The opinion of those who in-

vestigated the case was that the Klan had nothing to do with it. George L. Googe, Southern director for AFL, was convinced that the hoodlums were straw-bosses using the convenient Klan as a cover.

The disorganized and harassed Klan has not yet turned its attention toward union organizers and the union workers in the field do not seem to fear it will. As explained by Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Association of Georgia Klans, the mission of the hooded knights is to eliminate communism in the United States. It is in favor of organized labor, Dr. Green says, but it takes a dim view of the alleged Communists who are said to dominate CIO.

Prospects of Union Growth

The growth of unionism will be slow but effective, according to present indications. The roster of the National Labor Relations Board's regional headquarters in Atlanta shows that petitions for union representation elections have tripled since the first of the year. While that is an impressive percentage figure, quantitatively it still is far from impressive.

The immediate political implications of the drives, in regard to the hot campaigns now current, are diverse. Most Southern politicians realize that "the labor vote" is largely a myth. Up to this point individuals in the South vote for other reasons than their union cards.

The CIO Political Action Committee is taking an active part in some primary campaigns, but it is proceeding cautiously. It endorsed "Big Jim" Folsom in Alabama, and he won. It has found the Georgia Governorship primary too uncertain to commit itself. Although it is quietly trying to help James V. Carmichael in Tennessee, it has endorced Edward W. Carmack in opposition to Senator Kenneth D. McKellar, who won the AFL State executive committee's endorcement by a 5 to 4 decision. It has also endorsed Representative Estes Kefauver of Chattanooga, who looks like a winner.

It is safe to predict that an active labor party, as a third element on the American political scene, will not be born south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Unionization In The South

The current campaigns by both the American Federation of Labor and the Congress for Industrial Organization to extend their memberships in the South have aroused some extreme reactions.

Some Southerners, of course, are tremendously alarmed by the prospect. Some of the methods and pressures used in organization are, indeed, deeply disturbing.

On the other hand, there are some proponents of the advantages of unionization who believe that a wonderful new era will result from these campaigns.

It would be wise to avoid broad generalizations as to the early results, whatever the sympathy and viewpoint of the observer of the situation. Collective bargaining is, of course, an established right in this country. Its advantages in many industries are obvious. It is not to be expected that the organization of workers will not be extended in new fields in the South. Honest and fair collective bargaining can bring benefits both to workers and industries.

It does not follow that organization is needed for all workers. It does not follow that any one type of organization presents the only way forward.

* * *

For example, this paper recognizes that a "closed job" may be a justifiable expedient in certain instances. It does not hold that the closed shop principle is always acceptable. Indeed, it believes that in the long run worker organizations may eventually find that they can go forward best without insisting on that principle and, instead, relying strictly on the appeal of their own merits in furthering their development.

However that may be, one of the greatest obstacles to the orderly evolution of constructive relations between management and workers is the extremist attitude too often adopted on both sides. Neither side is without fault. Many mistakes and excesses are chargeable both to capital and labor. The highest hope for all-around progress lies in the development of greater understanding, tolerance and cooperation on the part of both groups.

The all-out distrust and antagonism that so frequently prevail nowadays can only be costly to workers and managers and to the country as a whole.

* * *

As things now stand. the dominant spirit between employers and employes in numerous cases is one simply of fierce and even bitter contention. Such a spirit is bound to hold back the kind of creative cooperation that holds the highest promise in this field.

Modern Industry, a New York magazine concerning itself with the problems and interests of management, production and marketing, in its Aug. 15 issue gives a report on its own first-hand investigation of "Operation Dixie" as the organization campaigns have come to be called. This publication takes the position that the real significance of these campaigns will be found somewhere between the extreme estimates of fiery advocates and bitter-end opponents. Here are some of the aspects of the situation as *Modern Industry* sees it:

(1) Higher wage scales will eliminate some of the competitive labor-cost advantages now enjoyed by many of the Southern industries and companies.

(2) New markets for improved machinery, materials-handling equipment, labor-saving devices and industrial-relations services of all kinds are being created.

(3) Higher wages will create new markets for all types of consumer goods.

(4) Standpat industrial management will lose much of its political power, now based upon a coalition of Republican and conservative congressmen.

(5) With unionization completed nationally, all unions will be stronger in bargaining, better able to demand and get higher wages, better working conditions.

(6) Specialized Southern working conditions will become matters of union contracts, create new demands upon all managements.

This is the result of one intelligent appraisal from the special viewpoint of the outlook for management. It is therefore worth careful consideration.

* * *

Nothing is to be gained by a flatly arbitrary state of mind, one way or the other.

Much can be lost by extremist, ruthless methods by organizers or managers resisting their efforts.

There could be terrible conflicts and troubles if the extremist attitude became dominant.

The orderly working out of the situation, which might bring substantial gains for the South, calls for fair, open-minded and self-disciplined methods by all participants. The people generally will do well to cooperate in seeking to assure the dominance of reason, justice and the public interest.

46 Dixie Unions Grant Equal Status To Negroes

Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 21—Negro members have been given equal status in 46 Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way (AFL) local unions from the deep South by delegates meeting here, it was announced Thursday.

The union's Dixie Federation, composed of locals on the Louisville & Nashville, Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis and the Tennessee Central Railroads, took the action at its triennial meeting.

Amalgamation of formerly segregated all-white and all-Negro locals will proceed under the resolution which also granted Negroes the right to election as delegates to conventions and conferences.

Jennings Perry

Worthy Cause

NASHVILLE, TENN.

Right on top of the Cumberland Plateau, where this storied divide tapers toward the Tennessee-Alabama line, is a remarkable institution called the Highlander Folk School, which has been on my conscience long enough.

Perry

The school was brought upon my conscience obliquely half-a-dozen years ago when the newspaper of which I long was a part suddenly chose, for reasons that remain obscure, to smear the place as "Communist." A reporter was sent to pose as a student and uncover red deviltry. He wrote what he was sent to write. His findings, which amounted to nothing flat, were published nevertheless with a great show of alarm. This man, no longer a member of the press, has had the grace to be heartily ashamed of "the dirtiest assignment I ever was handed."

The business was wantonly unfair, and has been painful to me personally because it nicks my pride in a newspaper that otherwise has been and still is the most liberal newspaper in the South.

I am writing about it now because Highlander Folk School is trying to expand its facilities and because it salves my sense of justice to help it if I can.

The school was founded in 1932 for the purpose of training labor leaders in the South (organizers, shop-stewards, delegates) in the methods and responsibilities of trade-unionism. The objective was laudable, not only from the viewpoint of those who see trade-unionism as the hope of the world, but from the viewpoint of those who understand that the unions in the new ground of the South have much to learn, and must gain experience and discipline if labor-management relations are not to be on a haphazard basis. It was and is the only school of the kind in the South, and it was inevitable that forces aliergic to labor organization should have made a hue and cry against it.

At the time of the defamatory attack I have recalled, the school was struggling with finances and had few vigorous friends even in the ranks of labor. Now approved by AFL, CIO and the Railway Brotherhoods, it increasingly is recognized as a work center of native movements to promote the unity of labor and to improve the standard of living of the lowest economic groups.

Co-operatively owned and managed by the teaching staff, the school's policies are wholly determined by an executive council composed of outstanding Southern labor leaders, educators and the staff members. Its classes are interracial. It has a field program that extends to all parts of the region.

Currently it is tackling the great educational job of showing the industrial workers and small farmers the community of their interests. It is aiding farmer-cooperatives, and to this phase of its services Myles Horton, the school's founder and director, now is giving most of his own effort.

Myles Horton comes from a sharecropper family down in my own cotton country (I've known the family all my life), and I have been able to admire everything about him—except perhaps his use of the phrase "I never wore shoes till I was grown" to illustrate hardship. My own recollection is that, in those days, a country lad only wore shoes under protest anyway.

The Highlander School is located on a 200-acre donated tract on the outskirts of Monteagle, in Grundy County. Monteagle otherwise is a Summer resort.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is among the interested "outsiders" who have made contributions to the support of Highlander. I can attest to the gratitude with which any contribution (even a rabbit for the dinner pot) is received.

THE ASSOCIATION OF COLORED Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen closed its 21st biennial convention in Roanoke, Va., last week after going on record in support of a federal FEPC, effective price control measures, and passage of anti-poll tax legislation.

The association also endorsed a federation of all organizations of minority groups working on railroads, and urged extension of rights and privileges under the railway retirement act.

S. H. Clark, of Roanoke, was elected president.

Roanoke, Va. Times
July 18, 1946

HEAD NEGRO TRAINMEN AND FIREMEN—New officers of the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen, Inc., who were elected at the concluding session of the group's twenty-first biennial convention yesterday, are pictured above, left to right: Jesse Hames, Houston, Texas, third vice president; Odis Alexander, Silsbee, Texas, second vice president; R. L. Edwards, Roanoke, grand secretary-treasurer; J. F. Little, Jr., Norfolk, first vice president, and S. H. Clark, of Roanoke, grand president. The three-day session was attended by about 100 delegates.

Roanoker Made President Of Colored Brotherhood

S. H. Clark, of Roanoke, was elected grand president of the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen, Inc., as the group concluded its twenty-first biennial convention at the William Hunton YMCA branch yesterday.

Backs FEPC

In the resolutions adopted, the association endorsed the principle of a federation embracing all organizations of minority groups working on the railroads, declared that any railway labor union which legislates for minority group workers without consultation or giving them an opportunity to be heard "by these very facts demonstrates its unfitness to represent and be trustee for rights of the minority," and also declared its firm support for a fair employment practices act, passage of an anti-poll tax law, an effective price control law, and the extension of rights and privileges under the railway retirement act.

The association further resolved to launch a "vigorous drive" for organizing northern Negro railway workers, and "to stimulate the employment of Negroes in the North as railroad workers."

Another resolution called for an international convention "on the plight of the Negro railway workers" to be held in 1947, to which all labor organizations should be invited to participate on a basis of financial contribution equal to that of the association, which pledged $2,500 for the convention. The funds, it was stated, would be raised by special grand lodge assessment.

It was emphasized that every association member, including the ladies auxiliary, should qualify for voting and then register to vote, and the group adopted a resolution calling upon the department of justice "to protect all voters in the exercise of their franchise without intimidation; for prosecution of all persons who combine and conspire together to deprive citizens of their civil rights guaranteed them under the constitution of the United States."

The President of the United States was called upon to exert the full power of the federal government to guarantee that all veterans receive benefits from the GI rehabilitation program without discrimination and the concluding resolution urged all association members and the auxiliary to work unceasingly to protect the rights of railroad workers now in service and "to open up employment and promotion in railroad service on the basis of fitness and merit without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin."

Roanoker Elected

The group chose J. F. Little, of Norfolk, as first vice-president and other officers named included: Odis Alexander, Silsbee, Texas, second vice-president; Jesse Hames, of Houston, Texas, third vice-president; and R. L. Edwards, of Roanoke, grand secretary-treasurer.

W. M. Miller, of Knoxville, Tenn., was named chairman of the board of trustees with W. K. Jones, of Knoxville, serving as vice-chairman and L. H. Jones, of Norfolk, as secretary-treasurer. C. H. Houston, of Washington, D. C., and J. C. Waddy, also of Washington, were named chief counsel and national general chairman, respetcively, on the legal counsel.

Newly-elected officers of the ladies auxiliary, which met simultaneously, are as follows: Mrs. Mamie Pearis, of Bluefield, W. Va., grand president; Mrs. Madge Wheaton, of Roanoke, grand vice-president; Mrs. Elizabeth Benton, of Knoxville, Tenn., recording secretary; and Mrs. J. F. Lewis, of Bluefield, secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. E. M. Terry, of Roanoke, was named chairman of the trustee board, and other members elected were: Bessie Price, of Roanoke; Mrs. Julia Cody, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mrs. Ella Butcher, of Roanoke, chaplain; Mrs. J. F. Little, of Norfolk; and Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander, of Silsbee, Texas.

About 100 delegates from the Southeast and Central sections of the country attended the three-day convention. Following completion of business the group held an outing at Springwood park.

Federal Judge's Decision Hits Jim Crow Rail Union

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-16-46

Three federal judges, sitting in Chicago, ruled recently that Sante Fe Railroad porter-brakemen had a legal right to seek relief from their grievances in civil court and were not compelled to submit their complaint against the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen to the Railroad Adjustment Board.

The porter-brakemen, represented by Attys. Richard E. Westbrooks and Kimball Smith, are fighting to hold their jobs against union contention that only Brotherhood members should be brakemen. The Trainmen do not admit Negroes to membership in their union.

Judges who ruled that the porter-brakemen had other recourse than the Adjustment board where five members are paid representatives of five railroad unions were William M. Sparks of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; William H. Holly and Walter J. Labuy, Judges of the United States Dis-

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This opinion said Westbrooks and Smith contended that certain parts of the constitution were violated by such Railway Labor Act were unconstitutional because the porter-brakemen were required to present their claims before the Adjustment Board.

Attorney Westbrooks stated that an injunction was obtained in 1942 restraining the Santa Fe Railroad from reducing the porter-brakemen to mere train porters whereby their wages would be reduced more than 50 per cent. The injunction is still in full force and effect and will remain effective until the main issues of the case are heard.

The main issue of the case involves award by the Adjustment Board in 1940 which ordered the Santa Fe Railway to reduce the wages of the porter-brakemen and to give the members of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, the jobs now held by the porter-brakemen. This award was entered without any notice to the porter-brakemen and they contended that

BIDS LABOR, NEGROES JOIN TO FIGHT BIAS

The Times
New York, N.Y.
Sun. 9-29-46

A plea for unity between Negroes and organized labor in the struggle against discrimination was made yesterday by Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, at the closing session of the fifth biennial convention of the Transport Workers Union of America.

Several hundred delegates from sixty locals of the organization in fifteen States applauded Dr. Yergan's address at the close of the business session in Transport Hall, 153 West Sixty-fourth Street. He was presented to the delegates as "a friend of the Transport Workers Union" by Michael J. Quill, reelected international president of the organization.

Declaring that Negroes will continue "to fight the policy of segregation" in many labor unions, Dr. Yergan said that unity was essential because of the large percentage of Negroes among the working classes. 9-29-46

Dr. Yergan also cited "the campaign of lynch terror" as another issue upon which the forces of organized labor should join.

Douglas L. MacMahon of Brooklyn was reelected secretary-treasurer; John Santo of New York, national director of organization and Austin Hogan, president of Local 100, as executive vice presidents.

The following were elected vice presidents: Matthias Kearns of Chicago, John Lopez of Brooklyn, James J. Fitzsimon of San Francisco, William Grogan, recording secretary of Local 100; Maurice H. Forge, head of the Airlines Division, and Joseph B. Dougherty, president of the Philadelphia local.

United Mine Workers

Long Union Service Record Claimed by Miner Delegate

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

ATLANTIC CITY—Among the delegates attending the 39th annual convention of the United Mine Workers was Nelson Veatty representative of District 17, Logan, W.Va., who says he has the longest service record of any non-white labor leader active today.

He has been active as an organizer, he says, since 1925 and has attended all national conventions since 1919.

District 17 has jurisdiction over 63 locals with a combined membership of 40,000. Sat. 10-12-46

Also persent was W. H. Nelson of Raleigh, W.Va., compensation director of District 29, who says his office has collected $137,000 in protest money during the past 20 months.

He is State chairman of the West Virginia Colored Democratic Organization.

Miners All One on Union's Roll

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—The numbers of colored miners who have left the coal pits along with other members of the United Mine Workers of America because they consider their contract terminated, could not be ascertained here last Friday. 11-30-46

The office of Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer, said that no racial breakdown of the union's membership is kept. "I have been here for 25 years and during that time we have never made such a breakdown," replied Miss Esther Cossell, Mr. Kennedy's secretary.

"If you have visited our conventions," she told a reporter, "you have noticed that some of the delegates are white and some are colored.

Popularity Counts

Afro-American

"This does not necessarily mean that a colored delegate is representing colored mine workers. Our unions are mixed, and if a colored man is the most popular in his local, he is elected as a delegate to the convention.

Baltimore, Md.

"There have never been published figures on the numbers of our colored workers, but, if so, they were unofficial and purely guesses." Sat. 11-30-46

21m 1946

Luce Urges Equal Pay For All Races

New York Amsterdam News N.Y. Sat. 2-23-46

WASHINGTON, (NNPA). —Representative Clare Boothe Luce, Republican, of Connecticut, introduced in the House last Thursday a concurrent resolution to establish a joint Congressional committee on equal pay for equal work without regard to race, color or creed.

The committee would study national problems involved in the establishment and operation of an equal pay bureau in the Labor Department to enforce equality of pay for equality of services rendered.

It would also be the duty of the committee to formulate recommendations and proposals for a comprehensive and coordinated program for dealing with problems of wage differentials based on sex, color or creed of workers who perform equal work with equal efficiency.

The committee would be composed of six Senators appointed by the president of the senate and six Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House. The appointments would be made so as to give equal representation on the committee to the northern, eastern, southern, western, south central and north central sections of the country.

TALKS UP: Rep. Clare Boothe Luce, who last week asked for equal pay for workers of all races.

Miss Luce Offers Equal Pay Measure

News Dispatch, Richmond, Va

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31—(AP)—Clare Boothe Luce introduced legislation today to declare a national policy of equal pay for equal work without respect to sex or color of the worker.

The Connecticut Republican's bill would commit Congress to the policy that:

2-1-46

"Equal pay in respect to actual wages, hours of work and working conditions, shall be given to all those who perform equal tasks with equal efficiency, irrespective of whether such employees are men or women, white or colored."

THE DEEP SOUTH

New York Times

Mardi Gras Labor Conflict Cuts Color of Parades

By GEORGE W. HEALY Jr.

NEW ORLEANS, March 9—Even this carnival capital of the United States, favorite city of Rex, is not immune to the inconveniences of labor controversy at the height of its season of make-believe and revelry.

If the first celebration of Mardi Gras since the war was marred by anything, it was labor-management conflict. That is, admitting that the "captains" and "dukes" who run the secret carnival organizations should be classified as management. *Sun. 3-10-46*

There are two sides to the story of why few Negro men were available to carry the torches or titles or to lead the mules which pull the floats. *N.Y.*

Many "old-timers" who marched before for $1.50 did not take part in the 1946 parades because they asked $5 when $2.50 was offered for the two-hour march. Their spokesmen argue that $5 is little enough for carrying a torch or leading a mule through crowded streets.

The other side of the story raises the issue of civic pride. The carnival organization leaders, recalling that for scores of years the parades have been the world's biggest free show, open to resident or visitor, white man or Negro, take the position that more than dollars and cents is involved in the matter of parading or not parading.

Thousands Would Benefit By U. S. Pay Increases

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA)—Thousands of colored Government employees in the lower pay brackets will benefit if Congress approves the recommendation of Arthur S. Flemming, a member of the Civil Service Commission, for an increase of 20 per cent for most of the per annum employees of the Federal Government. *Tues 3-12-46*

Mr. Flemming told the House Civil Service Committee last Monday that "We must pay adequate and fair salaries to employees in the lower brackets. The Federal Government would be doing just that if it granted the proposed increase of 20 per cent."

Most colored Government workers are in the lower brackets — clerks, stenographers, messengers and custodial workers. The vast majority of them receive salaries below $2,000 a year. Only a small percentage of them receive salaries between $2,000 and $5,000 and a minute percentage receives salaries in excess of $5,000.

The highest paid group in the departmental service is racial advisers to heads of departments, whose salaries range above $5,000 a year.

Dining Car Pay Scale Increased

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

By EDWARD H. LAWSON

Solon C. Bell, International Representative of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, AFL, and Chairman of the Joint Council Dining Car Employe's Union, AFL, stated here Thursday that the Dining Car employees affiliated with the Joint Council had received a wage increase of sixteen cents per hour, retroactive to January 1, 1946. *Fri 4-19-46*

"As members of the fifteen cooperating organizations of Railroad brotherhood unions negotiating wage increases, amounting to $38.40 per month and back pay from January 1, 1946, amounting to $134.40 as of March 15, 1946, we feel that the Negro public is unaware of the gains made by this group of workers over the past ten years, which represents an increase in wages of a hundred and sixty-five percent," Mr. Bell said.

The Southeastern Railroads who are parties to this agreement are: The Atlantic Coast Line, Chesapeake and Ohio, Louisville and Nashville; Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis; Norfolk and Western; and Seaboard Air Line.

Solon C. Bell, who has been in Atlanta for the past two years organizing Hotel and Restaurant employees, received details of this latest wage increase from headquarters. Further gains include Negro Dining Car Supervisors such as Stewards, Traveling, Inspectors, Cooks and Waiters on fifty-one major railroads throughout the United States.

Fortune At Sun Ship Co. Awaits Ex-War Workers In Dixie

Chicago Defender

CHESTER, Pa.—A fortune of unspecified amount, but running into the thousands of dollars is in the coffers of the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company waiting for its rightful owners to claim it.

The money belongs to former employes of the company who earned it, then walked off and left it, leaving no forwarding address behind. *Sat.*

Throughout the war workers who found better jobs or for other reasons left the company's employ were often so nxious to get away that they could not wait for the two or three days required for the payroll department to calcuate their earnings and make up their pay checks. *5-4-46*

Loss Equity In Homes

With the arrival of V-J Day and the closing down of the yard hundreds caught first available transportation and returned to their homes in the South, from which they had been recruited, without even notifying the company of their departure or their destination.

Many workers now in dire need of funds or trying to eke out a living from their compensation checks have a bonanza in the Sun Ship vaults that the company is anxious to get rid of. *5-4-46*

In Chester, Philadelphia, and Wilmington where many o fthe workresided, some were forced by unscrupulous real estate operators to make down payments on the purchase of homes in order to find places to live. *Sat.*

Many of these persons, unaware that they had acquired an equity in the porperty, left the vicinity without trying to get at least some of their money back.

There is no record of any of these real estate sharks trying to locate the persons to whom they owe refunds.

New York, N.Y. New York Times

Pullman Pay Rise Agreed On

CHICAGO, April 27 (U.P.)—**The Pullman Company has announced that wage agreements providing for a 16-cent hourly pay rise, retroactive to Jan. 1, had been completed with four railway employes' unions. The agreements were with the Independent Pullman Workers Federation, the Pullman Car Employes' Association of the Repair Shops, the Pullman Clerks' Association and the United Transport Service of America (CIO). All follow awards recently handed down by arbitration boards. D. A. Crawford, Pullman president,** *Sun 4-28-46* **said negotiations on wage adjustments were under way with the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Order of Railway Conductors of America.**

They Guard Our Treasury Of Books -- for $115 Monthly

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. Sat 4-13-46

By LOLA PAINE

Any city librarian who has managed to stand by her low-salaried post can tell you that she had to have four years of college and additional library training before she could even qualify for the job. And then she'll tell you that the salary doesn't match either the training or the responsibility of doing the job well.

Mayor O'Dwyer has offered a flat $120 yearly, or $10 monthly increase. But the New York Public Library administration says that's not enough. It points out that librarians should receive the equivalent of federal Civil Servise rates.

Here's how salaries at the Washington Heights Branch, 1000 St. Nicholas Ave. compare to this:

BELOW FEDERAL MINIMA

Head of the branch, Edith Rees (grade 4 librarian), receives $240 monthly, after working in the system for 21 years. If she received the federal maximum in the range comparable to her job, she would get $431 monthly. The federal minimum is $358. *Sat 4-13-46*

"The New York Public Library in 1945 lost 354 members from its staff of 870. "Miss Rees reported. "That's a 40 percent turnover. But it's not surprising, considering the low salaries."

Head of the children's room, Elizabeth Culbert (grade 3 librarian) is making $220 after 18 years' service. Under federal rates she would get a maximum of $358 in a range that starts at $303.

Mrs. Amanda Williams (grade 2) has a degree from Howard University where she also did graduate work, and a library degree from Catholic University. She's doing grade 3 work but is receiving a grade 2 salary of $165. Under federal rates her grade 2 salary would range from $248 to $303.

The library at present has no qualified grade 1 librarians, but the work is being done by pre-professional workers who are paid a lower salary than the grade 1 rate of $145 monthly.

A pre-professional, Barbara Reevers has finished Hunter College but has had only one semester at Columbia Library School. Even so, she makes only $130 monthly, compared to the federal $183 for sub professionals.

$43 LESS

Sat 4-13-46

The clerks' salaries are equally low. Mrs. Lillian Wethers, who is a

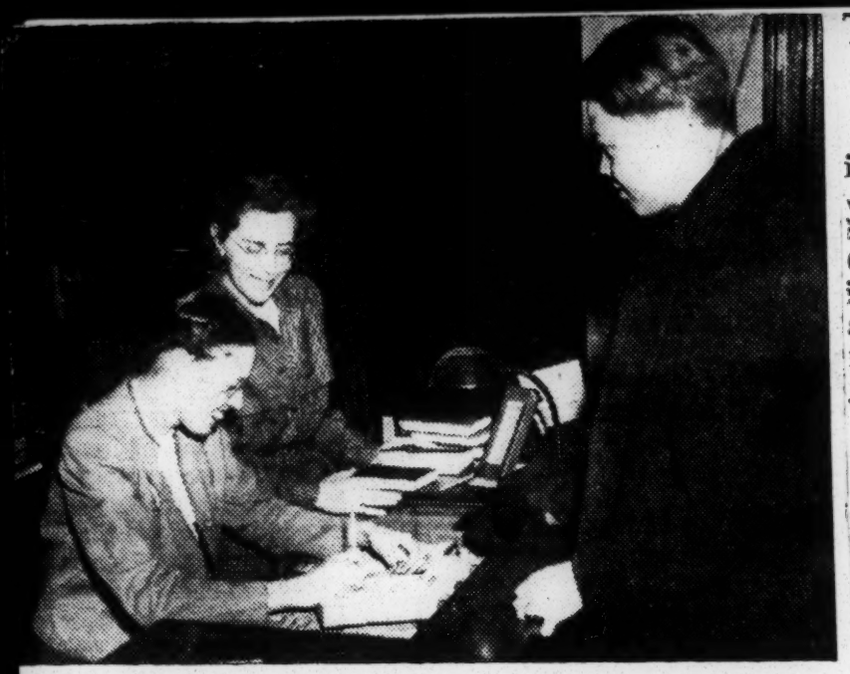
Southern Pacific Redcaps Win Raise

Wage negotiations for red caps on Southern Pacific Lines, concluded last week by the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, netted an increase of 16 cents per hour, union headquarters here announced. *Sat*

Retroactive pay amounting to $45,000 will be paid to the workers according to the agreement signed by William Daniels, general chairman and Harvey Calhoun, general committeeman. *6-8-46*

Representatives of the union from the Pacific Coast area attended the annual meeting of the S.P. system board of adjustment on Wednesday. They will proceed from there to Chicago to attend the national meeting in June. *Chicago*

Included in the delegation are Calhoun and J. R. Hoskins, Local 904; J. Wagner, secretary-treasurer, System Board; Samuel Simpson, president, Local 906, San Francisco; Douglas McFarland, Local 903, Sacramento; and Meyer King, captain of Red Caps, Oakland Pier.



Miss Edith Rees, head librarian at the 1000 St. Nicholas Ave. branch, looks on while Mrs. Amanda Williams checks out a book to a young customer. —Daily Worker Photos

Miss Elizabeth Culbert (seated at card case), head of the children's room, works with Mrs. Lillian Wethers, clerk, as Miss Barbara Reevers, pre-professional librarian, types a note at the machine.

normal school graduate and who has taught school for six years, receives only $115 monthly. Her job equivalent under Civil Service would rate $158. Mrs. Wethers is doing more skilled work, such as teaching all school classes that come to the library, but the system doesn't recognize her teaching degree as the equivalent of a college education. She is "somehow" managing to send two daughters to college.

Experiment Against Dining Car Tipping Launched

CLEVELAND. (ANP) — An attempt to eliminate the old tipping custom on railroad dining cars was launched here Monday by the Pere Marquette Railroad.

In announcing the experiment, R. J. Bowman, president of the railroad, remarked that the "tyranny of custom is already too deep-rooted" in rail transportation, and expressed the hope that the Pere Marquette's experiment will "lead to a trend that will result in much larger relief for the harassed traveler."

The move will bring no dagger glances from the waiters, he said, because the management has arranged to compensate them for any loss. While the Pere Marquette is the first railroad to launch such a program, it is known that tipping is banned in many of the nation's leading clubs.

The Minimum Salary Scale For Clerical Workers

Recently in these columns we referred incidentally to the low wages paid clerical workers at the Publication House, which, being a business owned and operated by Church, ought not to be content with paying the minimum wages, but ought to do a little better in an effort to practice what its ministry teaches with respect to better jobs and better pay for those who work.

In a recent article on "Business Opportunities", by W. J. Kennedy, Jr., appearing in Opportunity Magazine, the author discusses at length the opportunities in business and better paying jobs as offering "A Challenge to Young Negroes," who would seek these better jobs. Mr. Kennedy very properly calls attention to the need for "business training facilities for Negro students....especially in Negro Colleges and private business schools as well as high schools," and gives the "Job Classification and Salary Scale," as presented and approved by the Regional Office of the War Labor Board at Atlanta, Ga. Some of these figures are as follows:

	Minimum Month	Maximum Month
Junior General Clerks	$70.00	$95.00
Senior General Clerks	95.00	140.00
Typists	77.50	95.00
Stenographers - Clerks	80.00	112.50
Stenographer - Secretary	122.50	157.50
Supervisory Clerks	122.50	165.00

The lowest classification employee at the Publication House is that of typists, Stenographer-Clerks, or Jr. General Clerks, while the highest is Supervisory Clerks, some of whom have been employed for a long time, and should be receiving the maximum salary in their respective classification.

It is barely possible that the present revenue-income does not justify salary increases, but better paid workers are needed and would most likely be a chief source of increased-income. It is certainly worth trying.

Dixie Incomes Lowest In Areas Dominated By Non-Whites

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Southern States with the largest Negro population have the lowest income.

Of the South's thirteen States, Department of Labor statistics reveal that per capita income payments in 1945 were lowest in the five Southern States with the largest concentrated Negro population, namely Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Arkansas.

Per capita income payments for Mississippi was $556; Arkansas, $654; South Carolina $663; Alabama, $700; North Carolina, $732; Kentucky, $735; Georgia, $745; Louisiana, $785; Tennessee, $813; Oklahoma, $889; Virginia, $903; Texas, $912; and Florida, $990.

Louisiana Education Survey Commission.

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ONE NEED only to recall the report of the study of these public scohols for Negroes made by Dr. Charles S. Johnson of Fisk University to see the gloomy picture. He wrote:

"Sixty-five per cent of the Negro schools are one-teacher schools . . . 92 per cent are heated by a single iron stove. Toilets are out of order, if they exist at all. The water supply is unhygienic; half the schools have no electric lights."

Obviously the main reason for inadequate education for Negroes by Louisiana's public schools is that the Negro has no political power.

Although the poll tax was abolished in Louisiana in 1934, there are less than 3,000 Negro registered voters in Louisiana today out of a total of 702,545. Of the 792,545 registered voters, 701,783 are registered as Democrats. Thus there exists a Nazi-Fascist one-party despotism. Politicians do not have to fear real opposition. Above all, they do not have to do anything to stand well with Negroes for the simple reason that Negroes have no standing. They have the right to vote, but are intimidated from voting.

The Josephites, Passionists, Vincentians and Holy Ghost Fathers, most of whom pay bus drivers and housekeepers as high a wage as possible, and strive for equality of education for Negroes, are taking the love of God and all a stand for Christ against tremendous odds.

• • •

ALSO, he noted, the State of Louisiana contributes $59.37 per annum for the support of each white child in public school, and $16.88 per annum for the support of each Negro child in public school, but a Negro receives exactly the same education as a white Catholic child.

Some of the parochial schools for Negroes in Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Texas are cheap wooden buildings, but a Negro Catholic child receives a Catholic school education as a white child in the Catholic schools of Louisiana, and identically the same education as the white child in the Catholic Church school. Furthermore, the State of Louisiana has the segregation laws on its statute books that obliged the Catholic Church to set up different educational facilities for white and Negro.

But Negro public school teachers receive but 36 per cent, on an average, of the salaries that white women who could not cause of this, he believes that all school teachers, accordafford to pay that much should do the monies paid into the parish their own housework.

WHITE MAN'S VIEWS

Louisiana Priest Arouses Wrath by Wages to Servants

By TED LE BERTHON

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

IN one small town in northern Louisiana's cotton belt, a white Catholic priest with an all-colored congregation and parochial school pays a Negro $25 a week to drive a school bus. He pays his colored housekeeper $50 a month, room and board.

For paying these wages he has aroused much unfavorable criticism from whites in the area. The public school for colored boys pays its Negro bus driver $10 a week. Wages in the area for colored housekeepers run from $3 to $6 a week. The priest is charged with [illegible] and of [illegible]ing Negroes with dangerous ideas about wages.

To a delegation of protesting whites who called on him, the priest explained that white bus drivers for both public and parochial white schools in the vicinity each receive $25 a week, and that the principle of equal pay for equal work was his guide.

As to the wages paid his colored housekeeper, the priest said it was fortunate in having developed what all housekeepers should get, self-sustaining congregation. Because what all white women who could not cause of this, he believes that all afford to pay that much should do the monies paid into the parish their own housework.

21m 1946

ANTI-OPA DRIVE

Daily Worker

By Dorothy Loeb

CUTS REAL WAGE, JOBS

When you pay 80 cents a pound for ordinary hamburger or a dollar a pound for pre-cooked ham, don't get the idea that you're buying silk shirts or champagne for the packinghouse workers who prepare these eatable diamonds for the market.

The men who slaughter the animals, that dress and prepare the meat and do the other jobs to prepare your meat for table are worse off now from the point of view of real wages than they've been in their history.

Take it from Meyer Stern, regional director of the United Packinghouse Workers in the eastern district which includes New York. 7-1-46

He says that 20 percent of the 10,000 members of his union in this region have been laid off due to the farm-to-packers anti-OPA strike. Those 2,000 are in the 20-20 club, drawing unemployment compensation.

But even those who haven't been laid off are working only 36 to 40 hours, says Stern, and that means that they have a take-home pay that's lower now than before they won their 16-cent hourly wage increase through strike back in January. That's the picture for the whole country, too, says Stern. New York, N.Y.

Of that 16-cent raise, 11-cents was passed right on to you, the consumers. Packers just tacked it on the cost of your meat, with government okay. 7-1-46

The fact-finding board that recommended the 16-cents picked that figure because packers swore solemnly that there was steady work ahead. Honest John, they vowed, there would be a 48-hour work week so packinghouse workers would take home plenty of premium-paid overtime.

But that promise wasn't kept. Instead, packers closed down shop. They organized a conspiracy to kill OPA and drew cattle ranchers and farmers into a strike which keeps meat off your table and starves the packinghouse worker at the same time. 7-1-46

That's the background to negotiations that the United Packinghouse Workers will get under way with the Big Four and other packers this week. The UPWA wants consumers to understand it so they'll know the score when they the union goes to bat.

They'll demand a $1 an hour minimum and something new, a yearly guaranteed 40-hour week. week. Under this provision, they will ask a 52-week notice of lay-off, so that their jobs will really be protected. These are the main issues being put forward by workers who produce for your dinner pail and get very little for theirs.

Negro Pay Hike Gets Group OK

Atlanta's 367 Negro employes will receive raises totaling $70,000 within a year if City Council approves its finance committee's resolution.

Negro employes in every municipal agency will be affected. The raise would establish a uniform pay scale of 65 cents per hour, Comptroller B. Graham West said.

He added that the increase was granted primarily for the purpose of making the wages of all Negro employes equal. Some already have been receiving 65 cents an hour, and others a good deal less.

Income And Opportunity

Daily World. Atlanta, Ga.

Interesting is the recent report of Sullivan's Market Research, headed by David J. Sullivan, Negro Market Consultant of New York City.

The survey includes findings in 50 cities as to the income of American Negroes in 1943 and services for which this income was spent. Sat. 11-30-46

The income for Negroes that year, according to the report, was 10.29 billion dollars. This was nearly twice the 5.73 billion in 1941 and three times the 3.34 billion of 1935.

In 1943 Negroes spent 1.86 billion for food, highest of expenditures. Housing cost 1.71 billion and clothing 1.12 billion. They saved 812 millions, paid 596 million in taxes, 514 million for household goods and 432 million on transportation. They spent 411 million on fuel and light and oddly, spent the same amount on acoholic beverages. 318 million went to recreation, 288 to medical care, 308 to contributions and gifts and another interesting one—but 154 million to education and 133 million to reading.

Only South Carolina city included in the study is Columbia which had a per capita income of $535, an income which ranked 48th among the cities. Durman with $505 and Jackson, Miss., with $390 were lower. The national per capita for Negroes was $779.

Highest per capita income was held by Negroes at Omaha, Neb., with $1,400. Wichita, Kan., with $1,320 and San Francisco with $1,310 were next highest.

But extremely informative was the disclosure that Negroes in Winston-Salem, Shreveport, La., Richmond, Va., Dallas, Nashville and Norfolk had greater per capita incomes than those in New York, Philadelphia. Negroes at Richmond and Norfolk made more than those in Detroit. And in many other southern cities, the per capita was considerably greater than in several much talked about northern cities.

From this survey can be drawn several conclusions. First, if income is an estimate of opportunity, the South offers as much and in many instances more than other sections of the country, which probably explains why most of "Negro" business flourishes in the South. Secondly, it appears that economically, the Negro is no better or worse off no matter in what section of the country he lives. Hence, those who believe they must leave the South to develop labor under false ideas.

FAIRS

22 1946

Colored Fair Resumed But Secretary Absent

The shows went on again last night at the East Tennessee Colored Fair at Leslie Field, but without the presence of the fair's executive secretary, Branner Smith.

Raiding constables had discouraged attendance and Smith reported his life threatened when he attempted to enter the grounds Wednesday night. But witnesses claimed Smith was "unduly excited."

George B. Yancey, general representative for Crystal Exposition Shows, told The Knoxville Journal the constables were just making a routine checkup and "it wasn't a raid at all."

He said rumors had been going around that the exposition had paid a $1000 bribe to operate.

Yancey explained:

"We agreed to 15 per cent of the profits to the City of Knoxville and the fair, with a $1000 guarantee."

Welfare Director Arthur B. Atkin confirmed this.

"We collected $150 in advance for use of the field," he said. "I have a man out there checking the profits . . . if any. Anyhow, whether anybody else makes any profits or not, the city is out in front."

Difficulties between the constables and Smith hurt business, Yancey said, but he expressed hopes the carnival, composed chiefly of former GIs, could recoup their losses. The fair is supposed to close Saturday, but Yancey said he would ask permission to operate Sunday afternoon "like at Chilhowee Park."

Negroes Plan Cattle Show For S. C. Fair

A fat cattle show and other added features for a "Big Wednesday" at the 1946 South Carolina State Negro Fair to be held October 29 through November 2, was announced today by officials of the annual exposition.

Wednesday has been designated Veteran, 4-H and Future Farmers Day. A gala program by the veterans, and a fat cattle show under the direction of George Curry, farm demonstration agent of Walterboro, and one of the new directors of the Fair association will spotlight the big fair program. Sale of the cattle at the show will take place Saturday.

Dr. A. J. Collins, president of the State Fair association for the past two decades said that a challenge has been sent out to make Wednesday lead the other two big days, Thursday and Friday at the annual fair.

The midway has been made more streamlined and modernistic, and Harrison Greater Shows, Inc., has been contracted to provide amusement for the entertainment seekers.

Along with the usual riding devices found on the midways of traveling carnivals, such as the "Twin Ferris Wheels" and the ever popular "Merry-Go-Round" the "Whip" and the "Chair-O-Plane," will be many of the newer riding devices some of which will be at the fair for the first time. Among the more thrilling of the new rides are, the "New MacArthur Dive Bomber" where patrons will experience the actual thrill of an flight with perfect safety. The thrilling "Hey Dey," is presented at this year's edition of the Negro State Fair. There will be ten big riding devices with a number of miniature rides for the children.

PRIZES AWARDED AT NEGRO FAIR

County School Day Is Held; Exhibit Ends This Evening

Mrs. John Shorter won the grand prize in the 32nd annual Buncombe district colored fair being held at Oates park on Southside avenue, it was announced yesterday.

Mrs. Shorter was judged to have the largest and best variety of produce and sewing craft entered in the fair, which will close tonight at 11 o'clock. Other winners were:

Second grand prize, Mrs. Mollie Long of West Asheville; canned fruits and vegetables, Mrs. W. H. Evans of Asheville; art craft, Robert Miller of Hendersonville; sewing art, Mrs. Thomas Valentine of West Asheville; watermelons and candyroaster, Miss Helen Howell of Rutherford county; apples, Mrs. Janie Robinson of Haywood county, and cakes, Mrs. Virginia Robinson of Fairview.

County School day was observed at the fair yesterday and children of county Negro schools were dismissed early. Approximately 40 exhibits from 10 Western North Carolina counties are entered. The Bright Lights exposition show is providing mid-way entertainment.

E. W. Pearson, Jr., is directing the fair, Victor Stanley McDowell is chairman of the board of directors for the event, and Mrs. Annie Pearson, widow of Edward W. Pearson, Sr., who directed the fair for many years, is in charge of the exhibit tent.

Festival Most Thrilling In City's History

Defender
Chicago Ill.
Sat. 8-17-46

Chicago Turns Out En Masse To See Defender Mardi Gras

(See Photo Page 18)

By ALBERT G. BARNETT

Chicagoans—a half million of them—got their first glimpse of a New Orleans Mardi Gras Saturday, when the Chicago Defender Bud Billiken club presented its 17th annual parade and picnic, which this year was titled a "Carnival of Fun."

An estimated 300,000 persons lined the streets to watch a four-hour long parade, while more than 200,000 others filled Washington Park to enjoy a day of merry making with the kiddies.

In this colorful parade spectators saw the U. S. Navy band, Illinois Reserve Militia, Veterans of World Wars I and II, beautiful floats and 10,000 children dressed as clowns, cowboys, Indians, hula dancers, soldiers and sailors. As they moved down historic Michigan avenue, these youngsters sang and danced to their hearts' content. Yes, it was "Bud Billiken Day" in Chicago and everybody turned out to make this event a never-to-be forgotten one.

As early as 8 a.m. excited children from every part of the city began falling in the line of march, although the parade proper did not get underway until 11 o'clock.

King, Queen Rule

Perched high on thrones on a float say Yvonne Bowman, 10 years old of 2037 Warren blvd., the Carnival Queen, and William Mitchell Hill, 12, 3155 South Parkway, the king. They had been selected in a city-wide contest sponsored by the South Side Community committee.

Wearing a cowboy suit and waving his gun, Bud Billiken led the marchers into Washington Park, where during the day the children enjoyed a four-hour program featuring stars from the El Grotto and Club DeLisa night clubs and various theaters and radio stations.

Aside from the free eats the children received, there was a colorful regimental review and drill by the Illinois Reserve militia.

Highlight of the park program was the presentation of a 1946 Packard Clipper automobile to Lucius C. Harper, executive editor of the Chicago Defender by John H. Sengstacke, president and general manager.

Harper received the gift for 30 years of faithful service to the Defender. David W. Kellum, "Bud Billiken" and city editor, was awarded a scroll by the Chicago Urban League.

In another section of the park, the Chicago Tribune was presenting gold trophies to the Illinois Reserve Militia for excellence in drill.

Defender

The Eighth Infantry, commanded by Col. Clifton E. Jones, won the trophy for the first six months of 1946 by topping the other six regiments in the State, with an aggregate drill attendance record of nearly 70 per cent. Company B of the regiment, commanded by Capt. Frank L. Pryor, 3638 South Parkway, also received a trophy as the unit with the highest drill attendance in the regiment.

Presentation of the two trophies, won for the first time by the Eighth and Company D, was made by Robert Cromie, Tribune war correspondent. Cromie, during the war, did several articles on the part Negro troops played in both the European and Pacific theaters. Military talks were made by Brig. Gen. Julian Dawson and Col. Oscar Randall, both former commanders of the Eighth regiment.

Key personnel in the company besides Captain Pryor are Lieut. Robert J. Kellar, 4543 St. Lawrence avenue; 1st Sgt. Avery W. Blanchard, 3741 South Parkway, and Sergeants Walter Burnes 5309 Calumet avenue; Arthur C. Davis, 13119 Langley ave.; Amos L. Sneed, 5926 Indiana avenue; Hugh B. Stone, 3519 Indiana avenue; Roscoe A. Williams, 5631 Calumet avenue, and Edward Butler, 2356 S. Dearborn street.

Chicago, Ill.

Here are some of the expensive floats for the 17th Annual Bud Billiken Parade and Carnival of Fun:

1. Float for King and Queen.
2. Kemp Radio Service.
3. Lillian's Chicken Shack.
4. Mme. Walker Beauty College.
5. El Grotto Supper Club.
5. Cal-Cola Bottling Co.
7. Poro College. Sat. 8-17-46
8. Standard Oil Dealer
9. Joe Louis Service Guild.
10. Henderson's Chicken Palace.
12. New Club DeLisa.
13. James Weldon Johnson Unit.
14. Savoy Ballroom.
15. International Harvester Co.
16. Scientific School of Beauty Culture.
17. National Women's Corps—Flag.
18. National Women's Corps.
19. Casablanca Lounge.

Negro Mardi Gras Group Is Formed

Formation of the New Orleans Negro Mardi Gras Association, which will sponsor a Carnival ball, a parade and a party for children, was announced Friday by O. C. W. Taylor, executive secretary.

The children's party will be held the Saturday before Mardi Gras, while the parade and ball will be held Mardi Gras Day. Proceeds of the ball will go to local charity. Officers of the group are Joseph P. Geddes, chairman; Katie Wimkham, vice-chairman; Naomi Berikins, recording secretary; John V. Harris, treasurer, and Elgin Hychew, publicity director.

On the Road Progressive.
The News and Courier

The negroes of Charleston county are holding their county fair and thereby exhibiting a wholesome ambition to have a better, a more comfortable life. That will make better citizens of them. The News and Courier observes with satisfaction that a number of white people are assisting these colored people, are encouraging them to go forward. Messrs. Joseph E. Jenkins, Ashmead Pringle and James F. Sherrer, when they gave purebred pigs to negro school children in Charleston, which was followed by the organizing of pig clubs by these children, were conferring a benefit not only on the children, on their race, but were promoting the welfare and the prosperity of both races. The exhibition of livestock on Harmon Field is distinctly encouraging. The negro who comes to be an independent farmer, who acquires the good farmer's ways and arts, is on the road and moving to a civilized level that he would not find in the Harlems.

Charleston, S.C. Wed 11-13-46

22 1946

SUBLIME AND RIDICULOUS SIDES OF FIRST PEACETIME MARDI GRAS

For all its surface beauty and splendor, New Orleans' first post-war Mardi Gras exhibited all the ugliness of racism that it did before this nation entered the recent struggle for "democracy." While Rex, the Lord of Misrule, greets celebrants from a luxurious float in true carnival spirit (above), the King of the Zulus and his "royal" party, crammed into a medium-priced auto (below), give the world-famous celebration a minstrel touch that few intelligent whites and Negroes can appreciate, especially after more than four years of war.

CLEM J. VANDAGE

Prominent New Orleans funeral director who reigned as King of the Zulus in the 1946 Mardi Gras this week. In another section of the Chicago Defender you will see a photograph of Mr. Vandage in his Zulu costume.

MEMPHIS NEGROES IN CARNIVAL MOOD

Age Herald

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 16—(AP)—The spotlight of Memphis' week of gaiety shifted tonight to storied Beale Street where happy-footed Negroes cut loose with their version of the cotton carnival.

Skies cleared after 24 hours of intermittent rain to set a favorable stage for the Negroes' bit of fun making—the Cotton Makers Jubilee, featuring W. C. Handy, aged, half-blind Negro composer and "father of the blues."

Handy brought his golden trumpet down from New York to play a few soulful notes at the ceremonies and to lead the big coronation parade.

The 20-unit parade was to roll down Beale Street and then cut across a few blocks to Russwood Park, home of the Memphis baseball team.

There King Marvin Young, hospital attendant, and Queen Helen Fancher, a college sophomore, were crowned to rule over the jubilee.

A baseball game between two Negro clubs was to conclude festivities.

5-17-46

The main event on the regular carnival program was the grand ball at the auditorium. School children have been given a vacation for the children's parade at 11 a.m. CST tomorrow.

Athens Negro Fair Opens

Athens, Ala., Sept. 30—(Special)—Following revival of the Limestone County Fair last week, the Limestone County Negro Fair opened today and will continue through Saturday. The Fair was revived by Negro citizens after a three-year wartime lapse.

Colored Fair Planned Here For Sept. 23-28

The 32nd Buncombe county-district colored fair will be held here September 23-28, featuring exhibits of flowers and vegetables from Rutherford, Henderson, Buncombe, and Haywood counties.

Entertainment features will be offered each evening during the fair by the Bright Light exposition show. There will be displays of handwork, canned goods, and art from the schools. Prizes will be given.

All entries must be in by September 25. The fair will be set up September 23 and 24, at old Oates park on Southside avenue. E. W. Pearson, Jr., is manager.

DISTRICT FAIR FOR NEGROES IS CONCLUDED HERE

The 32nd annual Buncombe District Colored Agricultural fair, which featured approximately 40 exhibits from 10 Western North Carolina counties and mid-way entertainment, closed last night at Oates park on Southside avenue.

The fair was directed by E. W. Pearson, Jr., while Victor Stanley McDowell was chairman of the board of directors for the event, and Mrs. Annie Pearson, widow of Edward W. Pearson, Sr., who directed the fair for many years, was in charge of the exhibit tent.

Tennessee Fair Closed

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—An army of fourteen constables, all white, swooped down upon the East Tennessee Colored Fair at Leslie Street Park on the second night of its scheduled one-week stand, closed twenty concessions, and dispersed an attendance of some 1,500 persons. Sat. 9-21-46

Although reopening of the fair was "discouraged" by the constables, according to a statement by Branner Smith, newspaper publisher and secretary of the fair, it was opened two days later—without Smith's presence.

SECRETARY INTIMIDATED

The fair secretary said he was "intimidated" when two constables put their hands on their hips, cursed him and threatened him.

As to his retreat, whether he left running or just walking fast, Smith said: "I was in pretty much of a hurry."

COLORED FAIR OPENS TOMORROW AT OATES PARK

The 32nd annual Buncombe county district colored fair will be held at the old Oates park on Southside avenue tomorrow through Saturday and will feature display of flowers, vegetables, poultry, canned goods, pastries and handwork.

Various cash and donated prize will be awarded for each display and entertainment will be provided by the British Light exposition.

NOTICE TO ALL NEGRO FARMERS

All Negro farmers, farm wives, and leaders asked to meet at the courthouse at 2:30 o'clock Sept. 14th., so that we can plan together the Fair. The Fair will be held Sept. 30th through Oct. 5th., 1946. All exhibits are expected to come through the schools.

L. D. KENNEDY,
Negro County Agent.

VALDONIA BARNES,
Negro Home D. Agent.

Chicago Defender 3-16-46

Rip Zulu Antics Of Mardi Gras Celebrants

Chicago Defender, 3-16-46

3-16-46

By DAVID W. KELLUM
(City Editor)

NEW ORLEANS — (Special) — Mardi Gras, greatest free show under the greatest tent with the greatest cast ended at midnight Tuesday with Rex, Lord of Misrule and the King of the Zulus triumphant in the first carnival festival since 1941.

The Pageantry pomp, glamour, mimicry and mystery, was a spectacle to behold.

From dawn until midnight downtown streets were jammed with masked and costumed throngs who sang and danced to the music of hundreds of make-shift bands.

The color line fades when crowds gather to watch the Mardi Gras carnival parades. Negroes and whites rub elbows, push and jostle each other—for the spirit of the Mardi Gras is the spirit of friendship and good will toward one to another.

Sat.

Zulu Parade Disgusting

While Rex took command of the city proper, the King of the Zulus, impersonated by Clem J. Vandage, a funeral director, and his royal court were "strutting their stuff" in a parade that wended its way along principal streets for nearly seven hours.

There can be no doubt that the Zulu phase of the Mardi Gras is a disgrace not only to the Negroes of New Orleans but the race as a whole.

With their faces blackened to resemble end men in the Rabbit Foot minstrels, the Zulus were attired in black tights, patch-work fur vests and grass skirts. They wore wigs of kinky hair while the six parade floats were decorated in a jungle theme.

3-16-46

Out-of-towners expressed disgust at the spectacle especially after viewing the parades of Comus, Proteus, Momus and Rex, all staged by whites.

It was the consensus of most Negroes here that the Zulu parade does more harm than good.

The King Arrives

The Zulu festivities got under way promptly at 10 a. m. when the King and his royal party arrived on the flagship "Fox" at the New Basin Canal at Howard and Rampart sts. It was here the general mixup began. The King's float, as well as the other five, were missing and nobody knew where they were. Fortunately, however, someone provided a horse for his majesty and a half hour later he was bowing graciously and tossing coconuts to his subjects who lined the streets.

The parade took on a snakeline aspect with the King and his party stopping here and there at various taverns, restaurants and clubs to be toasted with anything from gin to champagne.

During the early afternoon the King arrived at the Geddes Willis Funeral Parlor and there he met his Queen, Mrs. Mary Ann Prudeart and her court. For one hour there was feasting on beer, sandwiches and champagne. The king then returned to his throne aboard the float and the royal party was off on its parade through principal streets.

This year the flag ship "Fox" on which the King and his royal party rode was first used in 1940, replacing the Clarabelle which brought Zulu to New Orleans from his mythical Zululand in Africa for 18 years.

The Clarabelle sank Nov. 21, 1930, coincident with the death of John L. Metoyer, who had been "the Kingfish" of the Zulu organization for 16 years. Metoyer was to have been king in 1940. His successor, as head of the organization is Joseph L. Smith.

The King is conspicuous with the royal ermine mantle, which has been kept in a swathed box.

Livestock and Other Exhibits Attract Many at Negro Fair

The News and Courier, Charleston, S. C.

July. 11-12-46

A large display of livestock and community agricultural exhibits are the chief attractions at the first negro county fair to be held in the county in four years. It opened at 6 p. m. yesterday at Harmon field. The livestock exhibits are to be seen at the Charleston County Agricultural and Industrial fair building at Stoney field.

The midway, described as "excellent" by W. McLeod Frampton, president of the Agricultural Society of South Carolina, attracted the throngs who visited the fair on opening night. Mr. Frampton said yesterday that he has written letters to all members of the society urging them to visit the fair to see what the negro farmers are doing to improve the breed of cattle and hogs.

He brought out that the society has assisted in the livestock development program in the past and expects to continue to do so, adding that a prosperous class of negro farmers means a more prosperous county.

The livestock development program was started three years ago when Joseph E. Jenkins, A. F. Pringle and James E. Sherrer placed a number of purebred pigs with negro school children of the county. Pig clubs were then organized among the boys, and calf clubs were set up later.

The program has been guided by Julius Amaker, negro agricultural agent, who has held a number of demonstrations showing the value in raising better cattle and hogs, Mr. Frampton said.

Says Negro Press Ignored C'ty Fair

Memphis World, Memphis, Tenn.

Forrest City, Ark.

Jan. 11-1-46

By W. S. BARABIN

The Negro Press completely ignored the Biggest Little County Fair in the United States of America. I am referring to the recently closed St. Francis County "First Annual Fall Festival" held at the Lincoln High School grounds, Forrest City, Arkansas, October 17-19, 1946.

A News article containing the highlights of the festival was sent to 15 newspapers throughout the country, 5 white and 10 Negro. Lt. Col. Gilbert, of the Air Technical Training Command, Memphis, thought so much of the recruiting sergeant at Forrest City that he sent a C-47 and 3 P-38's on routine flight over the Fair and City with a 10-minute air show Saturday afternoon, October 19.

The County Farm Bureau, business men and planters, of St. Francis County and Forrest City have appropriated and spent nearly $2000 on the event. Dr. Loppert S. Ellis, new Dean and Director of the College of Agriculture, Extension Service, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, sent a very fine letter of regret of his inability to attend to Theo Bond, business manager. The YBMC, an affiliate of the EAYBMC, spent $280.00 in decorating the City for the occasion. The Taxi Drivers (Negro) spent $30.00 decorating Hill Street in Forrest City. The BML (Negro) had a 'Top Hat Pre-Halloween Party for more than 100 out-of-county guests at the Orange Cafe, a Negro night spot near Madison, Arkansas.

Two Negro Editors, C. H. Jones, Southern Mediator Journal, Little Rock, Arkansas; and L. O. Swingler, Memphis World, Memphis, Tennessee, felt so ashamed of their 'ignoring' that each came to the Fair on the 18th and wrote up a nice front-page article in their respective papers the following week.

The Times-Herald, Forrest City, devoted a two-column headline with 42 inches of print on its front page October 16; The Arkansas Democrat, Little Rock, devoted a two-column headline with 15 inches of print in its Sunday edition, October 13; The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tennessee, devoted a one-column headline with 9 inches of print in its Sunday edition, October 13; The Arkansas Gazette, Little Rock, devoted a one-column headline with 7 inches of print in its Sunday edition, October 13, and the Press-Scimitar, Memphis, Tennessee, devoted a one-column headline with seven inches of print in its Monday edition, October 14. WMC gave 6 "plugs" (Free) Saturday, October 19.

I have never been accused of being an "Uncle Tom Negro", but I do feel that the Negro Press as well as the white press should play up more of the good things that happen, caused by the races cooperating together, as well as the headlines about lynching, raping, and the others that are so prevalent; especially in our Negro newspapers.

The Fair got so "Big" that we stopped calling it a Negro Fair and started calling it the St. Francis County Fall Festival.

Negro State Fair Opens October 28

The Negro State Fair to be held on the State Fair grounds October 28-November 2 will be the greatest exposition in two decades officials promised today.

A six-day program packed with events to make the fair the most educational, entertaining thrilling and interesting was announced.

Benedict and Allen, once again, after three years off the gridiron program, have signed contracts to meet in the big fair stadium on big Thursday.

10,000 People Expected

On School Day, Friday, 10,000 fair fans are expected to file through the turnstiles to enjoy the big attractions and gala carnival on the midway.

Exhibits of diversified farm products and cattle and swine show are expected to take the largest number of blue ribbons for an all-time record. Clubsters, schools, church-es, community organizations and stand shows, boxing bouts, and individual displays are expected to fill the big half-acre steel building. other spectacular free entertainment. Every day will be packed In the cattle and swine buildings with interest and thrilling amusement every stall is expected to be filled.

Midway To Glitter

All records for attendance are expected to be broken when the On the midway the big carnival of Harrison Greater Shows brings check-up is made at the close of an extravaganza of new rides, side this 41st annual showing on Saturshows, free acts and concession- day. aries.

In addition to the amusements, entertainment and thrills to be found on the midway, fair officials have secured band concerts, grand-